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Rise in share of AC berths in long-haul trains

Number of passengers in AC coaches tripled

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THE OVAL TEST

India looks to finish series on a high

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NEARBY

Rahul to protest against 'votes theft' on Aug. 5

BENGALURU
Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, who claimed that the Congress had figured out the *modus operandi* of "votes theft" by studying a Lok Sabha constituency in Karnataka, will take part in a protest in Bengaluru on August 5.
» PAGE 8

MLAs give thier wish list to Siddaramaiah

BENGALURU
Chief Minister Siddaramaiah held meetings with Congress MLAs and Ministers from the Kalyana Karnataka and Kittur Karnataka regions on Wednesday. » PAGE 8

Cryptocurrency worth over ₹370 crore stolen

BENGALURU
A cryptocurrency exchange firm has reported that its wallets were hacked into and cryptocurrency worth ₹378.9 crore was stolen. » PAGE 7

Trump's 25% tariff, 'penalty' to hit India from tomorrow

- U.S. President cites Russian purchases as reason for penalising imports from India
- Will take all necessary steps to secure national interest, says Union government

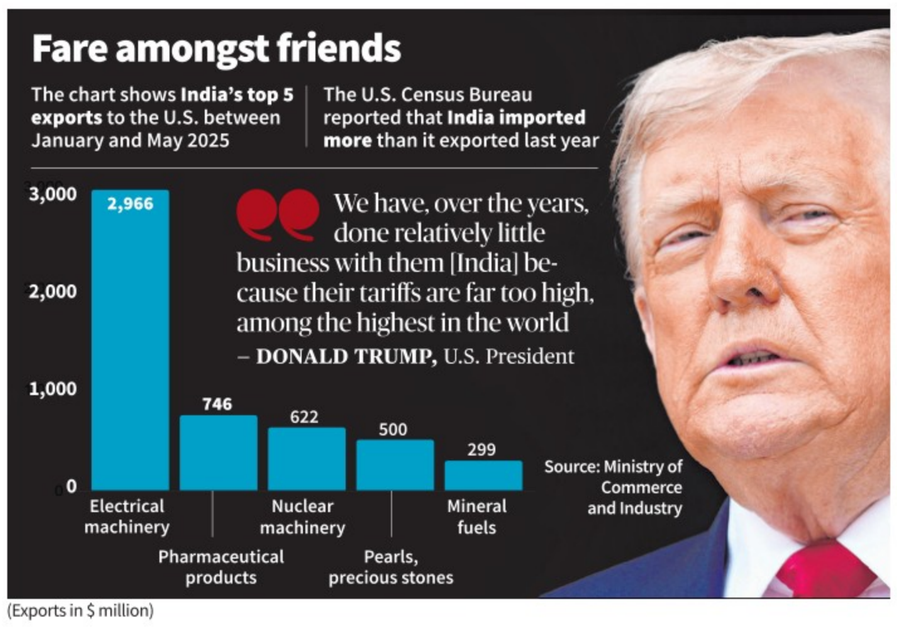
T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

Putting an end to months of speculation, U.S. President Donald Trump on Wednesday announced that imports from India would attract 25% tariffs from Friday, "plus a penalty", citing India's purchases of energy and military equipment from Russia, its high tariffs, and its "strenuous and obnoxious" non-monetary barriers to trade.

Hours later, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry said that the government was "studying the implications" of Mr. Trump's announcement and would "take all steps necessary to secure our national interest". India and the U.S. have been negotiating a potential Bilateral Trade Agreement since February, when a joint statement by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mr. Trump stated that such a deal would be concluded by fall 2025.

Apart from that comprehensive deal, negotiators from the two countries have also been trying to work out a "mini-deal" that will walk back the retaliatory tariffs that Mr. Trump announced in April for India and a number of other countries. Statements by U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer on Monday had indicated that negotiations with India may extend beyond the August 1 deadline set by Mr. Trump. The U.S. President's statement on Wednesday, however, seems to confirm that such a mini-deal will not materialise.

"Remember, while India is our friend, we have, over the years, done relatively little business with them because their tariffs are far too high, among the highest in the world, and they have the most strenuous and obnoxious non-monetary trade barriers of any country," Mr. Trump wrote on Truth Social platform.


Fare amongst friends
The chart shows India's top 5 exports to the U.S. between January and May 2025
The U.S. Census Bureau reported that India imported more than it exported last year
3,000
2,000
1,000
0
2,966
746
622
500
299
Electrical machinery
Pharmaceutical products
Nuclear machinery
Pearls, precious stones
Mineral fuels
Source: Ministry of Commerce and Industry
We have, over the years, done relatively little business with them [India] because their tariffs are far too high, among the highest in the world
– DONALD TRUMP, U.S. President

(Exports in $ million)

Unknown factor

"Also, they have always bought a vast majority of their military equipment from Russia, and are Russia's largest buyer of ENERGY, along with China, at a time when everyone wants Russia to STOP THE KILLING IN UKRAINE – ALL THINGS NOT GOOD! INDIA WILL THEREFORE BE PAYING A TARIFF OF 25%, PLUS A PENALTY FOR THE ABOVE, STARTING ON AUGUST FIRST [sic]," he added.

This tariff rate is marginally lower than the earlier 26% tariff that Mr. Trump had threatened to levy on imports from India. However, the additional "penalty" is now unknown as Mr. Trump did not specify what form it will take.

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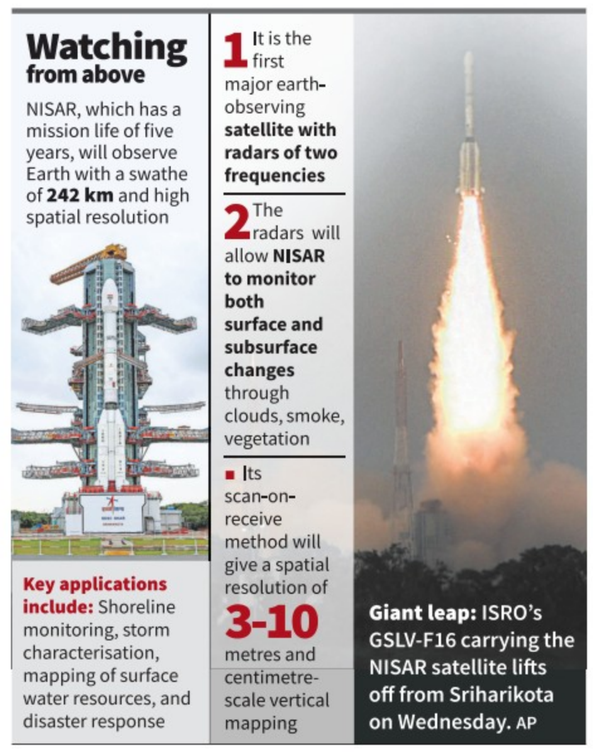
India launches NASA-ISRO earth observation satellite

Hemanth C.S.
SRIHARIKOTA

The NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) satellite was successfully launched on Wednesday from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh.

The Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV)-F16 rocket carrying the earth observation satellite lifted off from the second launch pad of the space centre at 5.40 p.m. Eighteen minutes later, it injected the satellite into a sun-synchronous orbit.

"The GSLV-F16 vehicle has successfully and precisely injected the NISAR satellite weighing 2,392 kg into its intended orbit," Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chairman V. Narayanan said after the launch.


Watching from above
NISAR, which has a mission life of five years, will observe Earth with a swathe of 242 km and high spatial resolution
Key applications include: Shoreline monitoring, storm characterisation, mapping of surface water resources, and disaster response
1 It is the first major earth-observing satellite with radars of two frequencies
2 The radars will allow NISAR to monitor both surface and subsurface changes through clouds, smoke, vegetation
Its scan-on-receive method will give a spatial resolution of 3-10 metres and centimetre-scale vertical mapping
Giant leap: ISRO's GSLV-F16 carrying the NISAR satellite lifts off from Sriharikota on Wednesday. AP

First joint venture

The NISAR, which has a mission life of five years, is the first satellite jointly developed by the ISRO and the U.S.'s National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

Casey Swails, Deputy Associate Administrator at NASA, said NISAR will give decision-makers the tools to monitor critical infrastructure; respond faster and smarter to natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods, and landslides; map farmland to improve crop output, and more.

The NISAR satellite will scan the earth and provide all-weather, day-and-night data at 12-day intervals, and enable a wide range of applications. It will observe earth with a swathe of 242 km and high spatial resolution, using SweepSAR technology for the first time. "NISAR can detect even small changes on the earth's surface, such as ground deformation, ice sheet movement, and vegetation dynamics. Further applications include sea ice classification, ship detection, shoreline monitoring, storm characterisation, changes in soil moisture, mapping and monitoring of surface water resources, and disaster response," the ISRO stated.

NASA said that mission controllers for the NISAR mission had received full acquisition of signal from the spacecraft.

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'UN report's mention of TRF a boost to anti-terror drive'

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

India's global campaign against cross-border terrorism received a boost with the inclusion of The Resistance Front (TRF) in the recent report of a counter-terror committee of the United Nations Security Council, officials said here on Wednesday.

India has described the TRF as a front of the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), and had accused it of carrying out the Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 civilians and injured dozens more on April 22. The Monitoring Team of the 1267 Sanctions Committee, which chronicles global terror groups for international punitive actions, published its report on July 24. A technical team sent by India to the UN to convey its position on cross-border terrorism had reached out the Monitoring Team of the 1267 Sanctions Committee.

The Monitoring Team of the 1267 Sanctions Committee of UN has noted in a report that the group had taken responsibility for Pahalgam attack

In its report, the Monitoring Team noted that the TRF had taken responsibility for the attack in Pahalgam.

Mounting support

India's campaign had earlier found support from the United States, with the U.S. State Department including TRF as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) and Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT) on July 17.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 12

2 terrorists killed in Poonch sector: Army

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

Two unidentified terrorists were killed in the Pir Panjal valley's Poonch district, the Army said on Wednesday, after it launched Operation 'Shiv Shakti' in the Kasaliyan area following a tip-off.

"In a successful anti-infiltration operation, alert troops eliminated two terrorists attempting to infiltrate across the Line of Control. Swift action and accurate firepower thwarted the nefarious designs. Three weapons have been recovered," a spokesperson of the Army's White Knight Corps said.

Army spokesperson Lt. Col. Suneel Bartwal said intelligence inputs were followed by "coordinated ambushes on the appreciated infiltration routes".

He said two assault rifles, one pistol, hand grenades, two improvised explosive devices, medicines, communication device, and logistic gear were recovered from the slain terrorists. Search operation was in progress in the area, the Army said.

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Income Tax Dept. conducts search at offices of George, Bescom contractors linked to smart meters

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Income Tax Department is learnt to have conducted search operations at the office of Energy Minister K.J. George at Embassy Golf Links, Domlur, in Bengaluru.

Mr. George has been away in Japan on an official visit and was not present during the search operations, sources said.

The Minister was unavailable for a comment when *The Hindu* tried to reach him.

The I-T sleuths have also searched offices of around seven contractors linked to procurement of smart meters by Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (Bescom), in Bengaluru and Davanagere, sources said. The Income Tax Department has not issued any statement and there is no clarity on whether the searches on Mr. George's office were also linked to smart meters.

K.J. George

The searches were on for the past two days and reportedly concluded on Wednesday.

BJP's allegation

The Opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has alleged a ₹7,500-crore scam in the procurement of smart meters, pointing out several lapses while awarding contracts for procurement leading to escalation of costs. The Energy Department and Mr. George have, however, denied all allegations.

Three BJP MLAs– C. N. Ashwath Narayan, S.R. Vishwanath and Dheeraj Muniraj – lodged a complaint with the Lokayukta police seeking a probe in April, 2025. Recently, they approached the Lokayukta Special Court and filed a Private Complaint Report (PCR) citing delay by the Lokayukta Police to file an FIR. The court sought a status report on the complaint from the police on July 23.

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*The Issue shall remain open for subscription on Working Days from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Indian Standard Time), during the period indicated above, except that the Issue may close on such earlier date or extended date as may be decided by the Board of directors or debenture issue committee of our Company, subject to relevant approvals (subject to a minimum period of two working days and a maximum period of 10 working days from the date of opening of this Issue). In the event of an early closure or extension of the Issue, our Company shall ensure that notice of such early closure or extension is given to the prospective investors through an advertisement in a national daily newspaper and a regional daily newspaper in Tamil Nadu where the registered office is located, with wide circulation on or before such earlier date or extended date of closure. Application Forms for the Issue will be accepted only from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Indian Standard Time) or such extended time as may be permitted by the Stock Exchange, on Working Days during the Issue Period. On the Issue Closing Date, Application Forms will be accepted only between 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and uploaded until 5:00 p.m. (Indian Standard Time) or such extended time as may be permitted by the Stock Exchange.

Issue Structure: (For detailed Issue Structure refer Prospectus dated July 25, 2025)

Face value	: ₹ 1,000 each	Minimum application size : ₹ 10,000 (10 NCDs) & in multiples of 1 NCD thereafter	
Tenure (months)	: 13, 24, 36, 60 and 70		
Schemes	: 10 schemes with 10 ISINs	Payout options : Monthly, Annually & Cumulative	

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*Indicating coupon rates for monthly options only. Refer Prospectus dated July 25, 2025 to view effective yield for monthly, annually and cumulative options.

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Capitalised terms not defined herein shall have the same meaning as assigned to such terms in the prospectus dated July 25, 2025 ("Prospectus").

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NAMES OF THE SIGNATORIES AT THE TIME OF SIGNING OF THE MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION COMPANY AND THE NUMBER OF SHARES SUBSCRIBED FOR BY THEM AT THE TIME OF SIGNING THE MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION: (i) Copies of the names of the signatories of the Memorandum of Association of the Company and the number of equity shares subscribed of face value of ₹10/- each by them at the time of signing of Memorandum of Association: 1. Arunachalam Kothari 10 equity shares allotted; 2. Nachiappan Kothari 10 equity shares allotted; and 3. Ramesh Kumar Jain 10 equity shares allotted; (ii) Arunachalam Kothari 10 equity shares allotted; K. Ashok Kumar Jain 10 equity shares allotted; and Nachiappan Kumar Jain 10 equity shares allotted, as the case may be, pursuant to the resolution dated [•] and the name of the proposed allottees, the number of equity shares agreed to be subscribed by them and the consideration thereof are mentioned in the table below: Not Applicable

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Please scan this QR code to view the Prospectus

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A drama-filled series replete with punches and counterpunches

Mindsets and attitudes have definitely changed dramatically over the course of the Test series that began with so much bonhomie but has since assumed an added edge, perhaps because India have been more competitive than England might have imagined

R. Kaushik

GETTY IMAGES

THE GIST

One of the reasons, the experts have insisted, for the cricket world shrinking to a global village is the proliferation of franchise-based T20 leagues across the world that allow fierce international rivals to occupy the same dressing room

Emotions can and must surface occasionally, because they are just an offshoot of the hunger, the drive, the desire, the ambition that is so important to be successful

The final Test will be poorer for Stokes' no-show. When he is in action, he commands attention because you never know when a piece of magic will unfold

Until 1845, where The Oval is now stood a market garden, with a waterworks overhanging it. Two years after The Oval came into existence, work to convert the waterworks into five gasholders began, and by 1874, they were all in place though over time, only one, called Gasholder Number One, survived.

Soon, Gasholder Number One too will pass into history. Work is already underway to redevelop it into an apartment block with a massive banner that reads 'Iconic apartments and penthouses for sale' proudly announcing the imminent transition. As and when these apartments are ready for occupancy, a huge slice of the past would have faded away, though it is hard to envision the gasometer being forgotten totally for a long time to come.

England, more than any other country, is proud of its investment in tradition, which is precisely why the renaming of the Pataudi Trophy as the Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy ostensibly to contextualise the modern-day rivalry so that it resonates with younger fans came as such a surprise. The disappearance of the gasometer is in keeping with changing mindsets and attitudes, one might say.

Mindsets and attitudes have definitely changed dramatically over the last 40 days of a Test series that began with so much bonhomie but has since assumed an added edge, perhaps because India have been more competitive than England might have imagined. For the first two Tests, it was normal service – lots of pats on the back, plenty of smiles exchanged, no more than the odd banter but no deathly stares and generous use of the lip. No more, not anymore.

What's a professional contest without any needle, you say? Of course. Sport isn't just a bland and sanitised pursuit of excellence – perfection is overrated and its pursuit futile. It is fuelled by skills and ability, undoubtedly, but also by passion and emotion. It is inevitable that, in the heat of battle with so much on the line, tempers will fray, words will be exchanged, actions that might subsequently trigger regret will manifest themselves. It's almost a requirement of competitive sport; maybe there is some iota of truth to the 'nice guys don't finish first' school of thought.

One of the reasons, the experts have insisted, for the cricket world shrinking to a global village is the proliferation of franchise-based T20 leagues across the world that allow fierce international rivals to occupy the same dressing room. That doesn't just facilitate exchange of cricketing ideas and viewpoints, it is also helps people get to know each other better. A drink in the evening and an occasional, accidental chat in the hotel isn't the same as sharing space for six or eight weeks, understanding backgrounds and mindsets and cultures and vision. That's what the Indian Premier League, and other leagues of such ilk, have catalysed. Players are more respectful of each other, they get where people come from, and the scope for misunderstanding has diminished exponentially,

But that doesn't mean that there shouldn't be drama. That players should get on fine with each other at all times, going about their business like automatons. One isn't advocating abuse and poor behaviour, no. But emotions can and must surface occasionally, because they are just an offshoot of the hunger, the drive, the desire, the ambition that is so important to be successful.

At the start of their home summer in May, England head coach Brendon McCullum had urged his players to 'improve their humility' – whatever that might mean – because of the outrage triggered by some of the comments made by his players in the media.

Mark Wood, a crucial member of the England playing squad when he is not recovering from injury, conceded that they, meaning his team, could be a 'bit dumb' at times. Maybe McCullum's urgings hit home, because England were slightly more 'humble', but only slightly more. Why else would they term India's declaration with a lead of 608 in Birmingham 'ridiculous?' After, their captain had wanted to be tested by targets in excess of 500; Ben Duckett, the opener, had famously said 'more the merrier'. It was as if India's overseas record 336-run victory was their own fault because they had set such an impossible target; England being bowled out for 271? 'Well, we went for it, didn't we?'

It is little short of ironic that the first signs of the fraying of tempers expressed themselves at Lord's, which prides itself on being the Home of Cricket. The MCC members who have exclusive access to the Long Room hadn't covered themselves in glory two years back when they booed and abused the Australian players after Alex Carey, standing well back, 'stumped' a doozy Jonny Bairstow with an underarm throw off paceman Cameron Green after the batter left his ground under the mistaken impression that the ball was 'dead'. The MCC, lest it should be forgotten, is the custodian of the Laws of Cricket and under the law, Bairstow was unquestionably out, but hey, why quibble over such minor details?

Anyway, to the present. On day three of the third Test, after India were dismissed for 387 to leave the teams dead even after their respective first innings, England had some seven minutes to negotiate before stumps. Zak Crawley and Duckett took 90 seconds longer than the norm to walk into the middle, and the former pulled out when Jasprit Bumrah was about to deliver once, before copping a blow for which he summoned the physio.

That was enough for affable young captain Shubman Gill to lose his cool and urge the England opener to grow a part of his anatomy. Strike one.

The next day, on being set a target of 193, India had slumped to 58 for four. Washington Sundar's off-spin (four for 22) was largely responsible for England losing their last six wickets for 38 runs. That evening, Washington asserted that India would 'definitely' win, perhaps by lunch on the final day. That was enough for McCullum to exhort his players, from the team balcony, to start chirping when Washington came out to bat on the final morning. The kid gloves were off. Strike two.

At the end of the Test, England insisted that Gill's confrontational tactics had backfired on India. The Indian skipper clarified that while he wasn't proud of the language he had used, what Crawley and Duckett had done wasn't in the spirit of the game. The 25-year-old might not have intended to prick England's ego by using the word 'spirit', but that was the eventual impact. Strike three.

Somehow finding their way to the moral high horse, England also dominated the cricketing exchanges in Manchester with talismanic captain Ben Stokes in the forefront. By lunch on the fourth afternoon, only one result seemed realistic; trailing by 311 in the first innings, India lost their first two wickets in the first over of the second innings without a run on the board. With 10 hours to bat out, the odds on England taking a winning 3-1 series lead weren't that long.

But through K.L. Rahul and their own inspirational leader, and then through Washington and the admirable Ravindra Jadeja, India saved the day. With chutzpah and spirit and character and spunk and ability and poise and control and dexterity. England threw everything at Washington and Jadeja for three and a half hours after lunch on day five, but they were met either by a brick wall or by a counter-attacking force, depending on the merit of the ball.

Mounting frustration

By tea, England's frustration had mounted. Frustration that they couldn't make any impression on the fifth-wicket pair, frustration that Joe Root had dropped Jadeja when the left-hander had yet to score. Frustration that the series win that appeared so imminent at Gill's dismissal had slipped away, comprehensively. Frustration that even a day-five pitch gave their bowlers nothing to work with. That was largely why Stokes stretched his hand out for Jadeja to return the gesture at the start of the final hour, which would have formalised a stalemate.

Jadeja had battled through to 89, Washington was on 80 with a first Test century never more deserved. India were well within their rights to ignore that outstretched right hand and bat on to individual milestones but apparently, that didn't go down well with Stokes' moral compass. He and some of his teammates taunted the two Indian batters, who barely looked in their direction to add to the hosts' sense of helplessness. England's petulance and lack of grace has since been pilloried across the board. On Wednesday morning, the eve of the final Test, Stokes appeared contrite though he said he had 'no regrets'. "Let's just try our best not to focus too much on a 20-minute period of cricket," he insisted. "It's been such a good series so far."

It sure has, though Stokes will have no say in the denouement. The all-rounder has been ruled out of the decider with a muscle tear in his right shoulder which should take between six and seven weeks to fully heal. It's a carping shame, his absence, because on the giant metaphorical stage that this series has been, Stokes has been the principal, compelling protagonist bar none, though there have been numerous other extraordinary characters, not least the impossibly brave Rishabh Pant and Stokes' commendable counterpart.

The final Test will be poorer for Stokes' no-show. When he is in action, he commands attention because you never know when a piece of magic will unfold. With the ball, Stokes has bowled himself to the ground - even in Manchester on the last day, with his shoulder clearly bothering him immensely, he bowled eight successive overs - and with the bat, he was just beginning to find his bearings. In the field, he makes the impossible appear commonplace.

Gasholder Number One would have loved one final glimpse of Stokes in Test cricket this summer - it isn't in a minority - but sport doesn't always throw up fairytales, does it?

Calls for formula-based fund allocation from GBA grow louder

Several former councillors, including those from the Congress, say that with no formula to guide the allocation of funds, favouritism and political compulsions will creep in and the corporations will likely suffer

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
BENGALURU

Municipal finance experts, former councillors, and civic activists have raised concerns over the lack of a transparent mechanism or formula for the State government to give grants to corporations through the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), which is touted as the balancing mechanism between five corporations of not only varying sizes, population and population density but also of projected property tax revenue.

However, between five corporations and the State government, there will be six elected bodies and multiple political parties in power, often at loggerheads.

Several former councillors, including from the ruling Congress, said with no formula to guide the allocation of funds, favouritism and political compulsions will creep in and the corporations will likely suffer.

It has now come to light that the draft of the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill submitted to the State government in July, 2024, had a provision for a finance advisory committee, with a three-year term, of five members "having knowledge and experience in financial matters" and "headed by an economist specialising in public finance", "to review the financial position of the municipal corporations and make recommendations regarding the distribution of finances across municipal corporations in the Greater Bengaluru Area".

However, this was dropped in the Bill presented in the Assembly by the State government and later passed by both Houses and approved by the Governor.

Activists and experts argue for amendments to the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill to restore provisions for finance advisory committee. K. MURALI KUMAR

Development index

Civic activists and finance experts have been arguing for a formula or a composite index to be evolved to guide fund allocation to these five corporations from the GBA. They have also demanded amendments to the Greater Bengaluru Governance Act, 2024 to restore the finance advisory committee in the GBA.

N.S. Mukunda, of Bengaluru Praja Vedike, a citizens' collective, argued for developing a ward development index, which was not only based on existing infrastructure and further needs, but quality of life. "Based on these ward development index, a municipal corporation index can be arrived at for each of the five corporations and this index should be dynamic and funds allocation from the GBA should be guided by this alone," he argued.

Srikanth Viswanathan, chief executive officer, Janaagraha Centre for Citizenship and Democracy, also an expert on municipal finance, said that there was no alternative to an independent finance advisory committee, which will develop a composite index/formula to decide on the fund allocation from GBA to each of the five corporations.

"We need formula-based transfers in a manner that revenue streams are predictable for at least five years. Currently, as we see in annual funding from the State, half the financial year is wasted in just red tape and the civic body doesn't seem to have the capacity to take up works to match the allocation in the same year leading to spillover works," he argued.

GBA finance

	Central	East	North	South	West	Total
Projected property tax 2025 (in ₹ crore)	659	912	543	733	580	3,427
Area (sq. km)	78	168	158	147	161	712
Projected Population - 2023 (in millions)	2.5	1.3	3.1	3	4.5	14.4

Finance Advisory Committee*

The Greater Bengaluru Authority shall constitute, every three years, a finance advisory committee to review the financial position of the corporations and make recommendations regarding the distribution of finances across corporations	The committee shall develop and recommend performance and outcome-based funding mechanisms to drive economic growth, financial sustainability, benchmark infrastructure levels, service delivery and improved revenue, among others	The committee shall make recommendations regarding the allocation of grants and funds received by the GBA from the government to municipal corporations, particularly considering the need for fair and equitable distribution of resources

*part of the draft of The Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill, 2024, submitted by Brand Bengaluru Committee in July, 2024

E-cycle initiative in Lalbagh to be extended after overwhelming response

The Horticulture Department plans to eventually introduce the cycles in Cubbon Park also.
ALLEN EGENUSE J.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As many as 1,660 people have taken rides on the e-cycles/scooters provided by the Horticulture Department to explore the Lalbagh Botanical Garden. The initiative, which was announced on June 5, on the occasion of World Environment Day, was launched on June 12.

The department had initially procured 15 e-cycles from an organisation called Fetch Mobility. In the first month, between June 12 and 30, a total of 682 visitors took the ride, while in July (from 1 to 28), it rose to 978, indicating an increase in interest.

The cycles that run on electric batteries are eco-friendly with zero emissions.

"We have received an overwhelming response to the pilot project, and after the first two months, we have decided to extend it further. We will be procuring 15 more bikes shortly," said M. Jagadeesh, Joint Director, Parks and Gardens, Horticulture Department.

Currently, visitors can take a 20-minute ride for ₹50, and the cycles are available near the Double Road Gate, near Siddapura Circle. The department is now planning to provide cycles near the Main Gate and eventually near the West Gate too. Along with the cycles, riders are also given helmets and knee braces.

The project was initiated after observing the success of similar initiatives in countries like Holland, Germany, and the United Kingdom. The department plans to eventually introduce the cycles in Cubbon Park too.

50 trees QR-coded

Another programme, where 50 select trees would be equipped with QR codes to provide detailed information, was also announced on June 5. The officials of the Horticulture Department said that the QR coding of all 50 trees have been completed.

These codes will provide information about the origin, migration, common name, scientific name, and uses of the trees. "It is a time-intensive job, and we have installed it on 50 trees. Taxonomical officers are on the job, and the codes will eventually be installed on all trees in Lalbagh," Mr. Jagadeesh said.

'Expedite roadworks'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) Chief Commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao directed officials to resolve issues related to Transferable Development Rights (TDR) concerning road widening projects and to expedite land acquisition for completing the ongoing infrastructure works.

There are 16 ongoing road widening projects in the city, and work has been fully completed on two roads.

The Chief Commissioner further instructed that a holistic approach be adopted for the development of traffic junctions to ensure smooth traffic.

Tejasvi Surya flags Namma Metro ticket fare hike in Lok Sabha

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Tejasvi Surya, Bengaluru South MP, on Wednesday raised concerns in the Lok Sabha over the steep hike in Namma Metro fares and criticised Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) for not publishing the fare fixation committee (FFC) report.

Speaking during Zero Hour, Mr. Surya said: "About four months ago, BMRCL hiked metro fares by nearly 130%. Public transport must be affordable for the common man. This hike has significantly reduced ridership."

> Public transport must be affordable for the common man.
>
> **TEJASVI SURYA,** Bengaluru South MP

He demanded that BMRCL make the FFC report public, stressing that transparency is essential in a democracy. "Despite several requests, the report remains unpublished. I urge the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) to direct BMRCL to release it immediately," he said.

Mr. Surya also called for the early operationalisation of the long-delayed Yellow Line, stating that it is key to addressing Bengaluru's traffic woes. "The city's infrastructure deficit is growing. Metro expansion is the only sustainable solution," he added.

The 19-km Yellow Line connects R.V. Road to Bommasandra, spanning 16 stations and linking major residential and industrial zones. Initially set for completion in 2021, the project has been delayed by over four years.

After long legal process, High Court upholds BMTC's dismissal of driver

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a case that has been in the legal process for 35 long years, the High Court of Karnataka has upheld the action of the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) in dismissing a driver, after he served for 17 years, for submitting a forged school certificate at the time of applying for the job way back in 1988.

Marulappa, who is now aged 61 years, was appointed to the post of a driver in September 1988.

The BMTC (then BTS), in 1990, initiated an enquiry against him for allegedly submitting a forged school transfer certificate to claim that he had studied upto class 9, even though he had studied only till class 1.

The minimum qualification to apply for the post of driver then was completion of schooling till class 4.

A decade-long enquiry

However, the enquiry spanned over a decade, and was completed only in 2002, and he was terminated from the service in 2005.

He raised a dispute before a labour court, which took 11 years to adjudicate the issue, and passed an award in 2016 by ordering his reinstatement without back-wages on the ground that he had served for a long time in the BMTC.

The BMTC, in 2017, filed a petition before the High Court challenging the labour court's award.

A single judge's Bench of the High Court in February 2024 set aside the labour court's award and confirmed the BMTC 's action of terminating him.

Following this, Marulappa filed an appeal before a Division Bench against single judge's order.

Not unduly harsh

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru and Justice C.M. Joshi, in its July 25, 2025, order has upheld the BMTC's action while stating that going by the nature of allegation that he had secured a job for which he was ineligible, the action of the BMTC in terminating him from the service cannot be termed as unduly harsh or disproportionately excessive.

Shivanasamudra comes alive after surge in outflow from dams

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Revival of monsoon in the catchment areas of the Cauvery and the Kabini, and the consequent release of water from the Krishnaraja Sagar and Kabini reservoirs, which are full, have brought alive the visual splendour of the famous Shivanasamundra waterfalls.

The waterfalls are about 75 km from Mysuru, and about 130 km from Bengaluru.

The two falls are popularly known as 'Bluff'. Tourist footfall has increased in recent days given the substantial increase in water released from the Krishnaraja Sagar (KRS) and the Kabini reservoirs upstream.

Meandering along rocky terrain, the Cauvery river splits into two branches carving out a riverine island, named Shivanasamudra, before plunging into a gorge with a deafening roar, at two places.

Tourists at the Gaganachukki waterfalls in Malavalli taluk of Mandya district on Tuesday. M.A. SRIRAM

The western branch is the Gaganachukki in Malavalli taluk of Mandya district. The eastern branch is the Bharachukki in Kollegal taluk of Chamarajanagar district. Bharachukki is 1.2 km from a dargah, on the opposite side of the view point at Gaganachukki.

Historically, the falls tend to be a feast for the eyes when the combined outflow from the KRS and Kabini reservoirs ranges between 1 to 1.5 lakh cusecs. While the combined discharge from both the reservoirs were in excess of 1.2 lakh cusecs on July 27 and 28, it declined to about 80,000 cusecs by July 29 noon.

Non-profit report lists opportunities for climate entrepreneurs

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Sustainability Mafia (SusMafia), a non-profit community of over 100 climate-tech leaders, has launched a 'Climate-Tech Opportunity Map' featuring startup-ready ideas which, it claims, could collectively reduce up to 72% of the carbon emissions in India.

The report presents a curated map of 25 high-potential climate-tech opportunities across four critical sectors for India – energy, industry, food & agriculture, and water – and calls on early-stage entrepreneurs to act on the most urgent challenges across these sectors.

Critical sectors

Some of the promising opportunities for climate-tech startups lie in textile recycling, decentralised energy storage, agri-biomass utilisation, and water-stress detection, according to the report. A few suggested opportunities are nature-inspired desalination solutions, weather-linked crop insurance, critical mineral recovery from mine tailings, and climate-adaptive wearables for outdoor heat-stress mitigation.

The report highlights that industrial energy heat contributes around 43% of India's emissions, but receives less than 5% of climate-tech funding. It also claims that 70% of India's water sources are either contaminated, or rapidly depleting.

The report identifies climate entrepreneurship as a critical lever to solve such problems and accelerate green growth.

The list was prepared after gathering problem statements from industry experts, entrepreneurs, and investors, which were further validated with primary and secondary research.

Co-authored by Bharti Singhla (Principal at Momentum Capital) and Paridhi Mishra (Program Head at Climate Corps), the report aims to help investors, accelerators, and policy enablers seeking high-impact, scalable innovations rooted in real market needs.

It has been developed as part of SusMafia's ongoing efforts to support climate founders through SusVentures, its flagship programme that helps early-stage entrepreneurs move from idea to action.

"India needs climate startups focused on the right problem statements – and fast – to meet the scale of the crisis. We also want the investors and corporates to fund tough climate problems," according to the co-authors of the report. "But many aspiring founders are often stuck at square one, unsure of where or how to begin, and with limited access to the customers' true pain points."

Timings
BENGALURU

THURSDAY, JUL. 31
RISE 06:05 SET 18:47
RISE 11:21 SET 23:14

FRIDAY, AUG. 01
RISE 06:05 SET 18:47
RISE 12:07 SET 23:52

SATURDAY, AUG. 02
RISE 06:05 SET 18:46
RISE 12:57 SET 00:00

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	24
Mysuru	27	19
Bengaluru	27	19

Bengaluru Today
27°C The weather will be mostly dry. Day will be comfortable. Night will be pleasant. Thunderstorm may occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
28°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be comfortable. Spell of light rain and thundershower is a chance.

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THE HINDU
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Restoring mangroves can turn the tide on India's coastal security

In spite of mounting threats to mangroves, India is also the epicentre of a number of inspiring efforts to protect and revive mangrove ecosystems; with the right mix of stewardship, scientific support, and policy attention, they are showing that mangroves can not only survive, but also thrive

Priya Ranganathan

Across India's coasts, from the languid channels of the Sundarbans delta to Mumbai's stifled creeks, mangroves form a barrier between land and sea. These coastal forests are critical in India's pursuit of climate resilience, biodiversity conservation, and the empowerment of coastal communities.

However, in the face of urban expansion, climate change, and development, how are India's mangroves surviving – and who is protecting them?

Mangrove swamps are forested wetlands characterised by trees that can tolerate saline water. They serve as natural barriers, protecting coastal communities from cyclones, tidal surges, and erosion. DIVYANSHU PAWAR

Mangroves matter

Mangrove swamps are forested wetlands characterised by trees that can tolerate saline water. They serve as natural barriers, protecting coastal communities from cyclones, tidal surges, and erosion. During natural disasters like the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami and recurring cyclones in the Bay of Bengal, mangroves have been known to attenuate damage to coastal infrastructure and biodiversity and have saved thousands of lives.

Their role in biodiversity conservation is significant as well. Mangroves provide breeding and nursery grounds for fish, crustaceans, molluscs, and migratory birds. These salt-tolerant forests also store significant amounts of blue carbon (the carbon captured by marine and coastal ecosystems), helping mitigate climate change by trapping carbon dioxide from the atmosphere in their roots and soil.

The mangroves of India cover more than 4,900 sq. km, including estuaries, deltas, and the coasts of West Bengal, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, and Karnataka, among other States. For coastal communities, especially traditional fishers and honey gatherers, mangroves are intimately linked to livelihoods and cultural practices.

Yet they are increasingly threatened by urban expansion, aquaculture, pollution, and changing climate patterns. This isn't the case in India alone: around the world, more than half of all mangrove ecosystems are at risk of collapse by 2050, according to a recent report from the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

In spite of these mounting threats, however, India is also the epicentre of a growing number of inspiring efforts to protect and revive mangrove ecosystems. With the right mix of stewardship, scientific support, and policy attention, they are showing that mangroves can not only survive: but also thrive.

Mangroves in Tamil Nadu

In recent years, efforts to restore mangroves across Tamil Nadu have seen remarkable progress, driven by a combination of government initiatives, community participation, and scientific planning. Once severely degraded by shrimp farming, industrial pollution, and altered hydrology, the State's estuaries and coasts are today witnessing a slow but steady comeback.

Under the Green Tamil Nadu Mission and other coastal restoration programmes, the districts of Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, and Cuddalore, among others, have significantly expanded mangrove cover. As a result, Tamil Nadu nearly doubled its mangrove extent – from 4,500 hectares to more than 9,000 hectares between 2021 and 2024 – and has been leading coastal ecosystem recovery in India. In early 2017, the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation in Chennai, in collaboration with local village committees and the Tamil Nadu Forest Department, began a project to restore 115 hectares of degraded mangroves in the Pattuvanachi estuary of Muthupettai. After thorough site assessments and community engagement, the team dug 19 major canals to restore tidal flow. Then team members planted more than 4.3 lakh *Avicennia* seeds from Muthupettai and 6,000 *Rhizophora* propagules from Pichavaram, successfully regenerating a once-stagnant landscape into a thriving mangrove forest.

Yet another success story from Tamil Nadu is the restoration of a green belt of mangroves near Buckingham Canal in Kazhipattur in Chennai. Under the Green Tamil Nadu Mission, the Forest Department planted 12,500 mangrove seedlings from five species in 2024 with the help of scientific experts. The restoration involved removing invasive *Prosopis juliflora* weeds before planting the mangroves, with the goal of restoring Chennai's natural shield against cyclones and storm surges.

Conservation in Mumbai

In early 2025, Amazon's Right Now Climate Fund partnered with Hasten Regeneration and the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation to launch a $1.2 million (₹10.3 crore as of July 24, 2025)

Efforts to restore mangroves in Tamil Nadu have seen remarkable progress. Once severely degraded by shrimp farming, pollution, and altered hydrology, the State's estuaries are witnessing a steady comeback

restoration project along Thane Creek in Mumbai, aimed at reviving essential mangrove forests and mudflats that support migratory flamingos and more than 180 other bird species.

The project combined ecological restoration with urban cleanup: biodegradable barriers called trash booms were installed to intercept plastic pollution, targeting the collection of at least 150 tonnes of plastic over three years. Simultaneously, the initiative has planned to plant about 3.75 lakh mangrove saplings, creating new habitat for flamingos and empowering local communities, especially women, by providing paid employment in planting and maintenance activities.

By focusing both on ecological recovery and socio-economic resilience, this project exemplifies how corporate-backed, nature-based solutions can advance biodiversity protection in India's rapidly urbanising coastal zones.

Gujarat's success

Gujarat has become a national leader in mangrove restoration under the Indian government's Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes scheme, which was launched on World Environment Day 2023.Under this scheme, Gujarat has planted more than 19,000 hectares of mangroves in two years, surpassing the Central government's planned five-year target of 54,000 hectares.

The goal of this effort is to rebuild coastal resilience across the Kutch and coastal Saurashtra regions, supporting biodiversity and local livelihoods alike, promoting ecotourism, and contributing to the nation's blue carbon goals.

Gujarat is already home to 23.6% of India's mangrove cover and currently an example of how robust planning and strategic coastal mapping can help quickly upscale restoration efforts.

These stories from India's coastal communities show us that mangrove conservation is not just possible but actually well underway. Such stories of hope must become the norm, not the exception.

As climate change and rampant developmental activities continue to ravage our coasts, the need to protect what remains and restore what is lost has never been more urgent. Mangroves are the first line of defence against storms, and they also shelter fisheries and store carbon.

(Priya Ranganathan is a doctoral student and researcher at the Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), Bengaluru. rpriya.ecology@gmail.com)

A drone view shows a hotel under construction ahead of the COP30 climate summit in Belem, Brazil. REUTERS

UN in urgent talks on COP30 summit costs

Reuters

The United Nations' climate bureau held an urgent meeting on July 29 over concerns that sky-high accommodation prices for this year's COP30 climate summit in Brazil could price poorer countries out of the negotiations.

Brazil is preparing to host this year's UN climate summit in November in the rainforest city of Belem, where nearly every government in the world will gather to negotiate their joint efforts to curb climate change.

Concerns about logistics have dogged preparations for COP30. Developing countries have warned that they cannot afford Belem's accommodation prices, which have soared amid a shortage of rooms.

In an emergency meeting of the UN climate body's "COP bureau" on Tuesday, Brazil agreed to address countries' concerns about accommodation and report back at another meeting on August 11, said Richard Muyungi, chair of the African Group of Negotiators, who called the meeting.

"We were assured that we will revisit that on the 11th to get assurances on whether the accommodation will be adequate for all delegates," Muyungi said.

He said African countries wanted to avoid trimming their participation because of the cost.

"We are not ready to cut down the numbers. Brazil has got a lot of options in terms of having a better COP, a good COP. So that is why we are pushing that Brazil has to provide better answers, rather than telling us to limit our delegation," Muyungi said.

Another diplomat familiar with the meeting said complaints about affordability came from both poor and wealthy nations.

UN diplomats showed quotes they had received from hotels and property managers in Belem for rates of around $700 per person per night during COP30

An agenda for Tuesday's meeting confirmed it was convened to address "operational and logistical preparations for the Climate Change Conference in Belem" and the African Group of Negotiators' concerns on the matter.

Brazil's Foreign Ministry did not immediately reply to a request for comment. Brazilian officials organising the summit have made repeated assurances that poorer countries will have access to accommodation they can afford.

A spokesperson for the UN's climate body, UNFCCC, declined to comment on the meeting.Brazil is racing to expand the 18,000 hotel beds usually available in Belem, a coastal city of 1.3 million, to host the roughly 45,000 people projected to attend COP30.

The government this month said it had secured two cruise ships to provide 6,000 extra beds for delegates. It also opened bookings to developing countries for more affordable accommodation at daily rates of up to $220.

That is still above the "daily subsistence allowance" the UN offers some poorer nations to support their participation at COPs. For Belem, the figure is $149.

Two UN diplomats showed quotes they had received from hotels and property managers in Belem for rates of around $700 per person per night during COP30.

A spokesperson for the Dutch government said it may need to halve its delegation compared with recent COPs, when the Netherlands sent around 90 people during the two-week event, including envoys, negotiators, and youth representatives.

Poland's deputy climate minister Krzysztof Bolesta said earlier this month, "We don't have accommodation. We'll probably have to cut the delegation down to the bone. In an extreme event, maybe we will have to not show up."

THE SCIENCE QUIZ

Please send in your answers to science@thehindu.co.in

Let's go for a bumpy drive

Vasudevan Mukunth

QUESTION 1

Name the eight-wheeled rover the Soviet Union launched in 1970, which became the world's first robotic rover on the moon. From November 17, 1970, to September 14, 1971, the rover travelled 10 km across the bleak volcanic plains of *Mare Imbrium* and eventually beamed back more than 20,000 images.

QUESTION 2

Sojourner was a shoebox-sized Mars rover that piggybacked on the NASA Pathfinder mission in 1997. The rover used X suspension, a new kind of system built for it, to traverse the red planet. Sojourner first proved that NASA could navigate and remotely operate wheeled robots on another planet. Name X.

QUESTION 3

Which Mars rover, originally slated to operate for 90 days, trekked nearly 45 km over 15 earth years, often through dust storms, and eventually discovered hematite spherules called blueberries? The rover also finally transmitted the haunting message: "My battery is low and it's getting dark" before going silent in 2018.

QUESTION 4

Name the plutonium-powered rover that descended Mars's Gale Crater in 2012 using a dramatic sky-crane. The rover was able to drill into mudstones on Mars's Mount Sharp, revealing that ancient lakes there once hosted the ingredients necessary for microbial life.

QUESTION 5

Identify the six-wheeled rover that rolled out from China's Chang'e-4 lander onto the moon's far side in 2019, becoming the first robotic mission to access this part of the moon's surface. The rover used ground-penetrating radar to study the layered megaregolith under its wheels.

Answers to July 29 quiz:

1. Waterway separating Europe from Asia once called Hellespoint – **Ans: Dardanelles Strait**
2. 77-km-long structure linking Atlantic and Pacific Oceans – **Ans: Panama Canal**
3. Strait linking Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea – **Ans: Strait of Gibraltar**
4. Strait linking Crimean Peninsula to Russia noted for strategic value – **Ans: Kerch Strait**
5. Strait between Northeast Asia and North America – **Ans: Bering Strait**

Visual: **They're located on isthmuses**

First contact: K.N. Viswanathan | Sujit Yadav | Sandra Santhosh | Saifuddin Midda | Hari Lakshmi

Visual: Name this NASA mission during which astronauts on the moon became the first to drive a lunar rover on July 31, 1971. NASA

For feedback and suggestions for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

Dharmasthala: No skeletal remains found on Day 2

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU/BENGALURU

Members of the Special Investigation Team, along with the complainant-witness, going to one of the spots of exhumation at Dharmasthala on Wednesday.

Day two of attempts to exhume skeletal remains of those allegedly killed and buried in Dharmasthala did not yield any results on Wednesday either.

The process began on Tuesday, when the Special Investigation Team (SIT) dug up spot 1 of the 13 shown by the whistle-blower who claimed to have been forced to bury bodies between 1995 and 2014, but did not find any human remains.

On Wednesday, the SIT dug up four more spots – 2, 3, 4 and 5 – all in the forest area in Dharmasthala and at no place did they find any human remains.

Sources said that SIT ensured all the pits were dug at least six feet deep and to the satisfaction of the complainant in the case, but concluded the day empty handed.

Sources in the SIT said they will continue digging at the other spots shown by the complainant on Thursday.

The SIT conducted an inquest of 13 such spots on Monday.

Meanwhile, SIT sleuths have recovered a PAN card in the name of a male and a RuPay debit card in the name of a female while digging site 1 on Tuesday.

A senior official said they were recovered less than half a foot below the ground and attempts were under way to track either them or their families down, to ascertain what happened to them and how these cards ended up at this site.

'Contact SIT office'

The SIT probing the alleged burial of bodies in Dharmasthala village said on Wednesday that people who want to give any information to it can visit its office in Mangaluru at the Inspection Bungalow in Mallikatta- Kadri.

The visiting time is 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. People can contact it through WhatsApp on 8277986369. landline 0824-2005301, or email: sitdps@ksp.gov.in, it said in a release.

Woman injured as pistol misfires

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 32-year-old woman sustained bullet injuries after a pistol misfired at the house of her friend in Hennur police station limits recently.

The injured person has been identified as Rachel, a resident of Cox Town, who was visiting her friend in Ashirwad Colony in Horamavu.

She picked up the licensed pistol, when it unexpectedly went off, while her friend was not in the room. She was hit in the stomach. Her friend rushed her to a hospital.

The victim is being treated in the intensive care unit of a private hospital, according to the police.

The Hennur police have seized the weapon and registered an FIR under Section 125 (Act endangering life or personal safety of others) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and sections of the Arms Act.

Threat scribbled on wall of apartment leads to panic

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Panic gripped the residents of Alpine Pyramid apartment complex in Kodigehalli when they found a message on the wall, stating that there would be a "bomb blast in India from Pakistan", on Wednesday afternoon.

The Kodigehalli police reached the spot along with a bomb disposal squad and confirmed that it was a hoax.

The police have registered a non-cognisable report and verified the CCTV camera footage to find three minor girls moving around the area in a suspicious manner.

The police have identified the suspects and are yet to question them to ascertain their motive.

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NOTICE

It is for the information to all our Policy Holders, Intermediaries, Stakeholders, Ombudsman, General Public and other Government Offices that our Bangalore Business Office III (Divisional Office III) premises at No. 15-17-19, Sri Lakshmi Complex, St. Mark's Road, Bangalore-560 001 will be shifted **w.e.f 29.09.2025** as per details below.

Office to be shifted:	Office from where services will be Provided:
Bangalore Business Office III (602200) (Divisional Office III) I Floor, Sri Lakshmi Complex, No. 15-17-19, St. Mark's Road, Bangalore 560 001 Email: 602200@nic.co.in	Bangalore Business Office III (Divisional Office III) [602200] III Floor, Unity Building Annexe, No. 72, P. Kalinga Rao Road, (Old Mission Road), Bangalore 560 027 Email: 602200@nic.co.in

(Joydeep Roy)
Deputy General Manager

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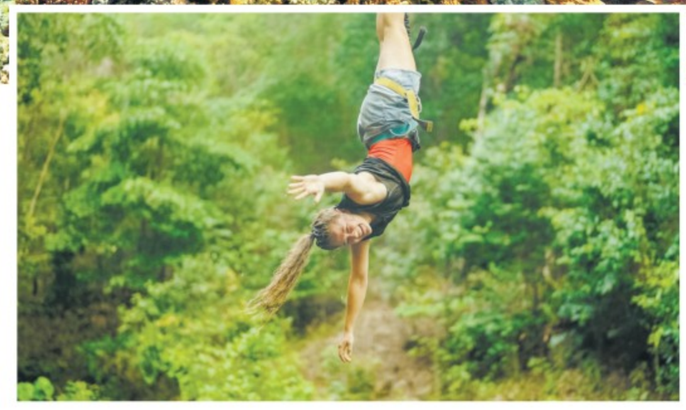

In Tropical North Queensland, nature doesn't just sit pretty — it puts on a show. Cairns & the Great Barrier Reef is where two World Heritage wonders collide: the world's largest living reef and one of the oldest rainforests.

At its heart lies the Great Barrier Reef — a living natural wonder, almost surreal up close. Vibrant coral gardens, curious marine life, and crystal waters that seem to stretch forever. Dive in, snorkel, glide on a glass-bottom boat or take it all in from the sky on a helicopter ride. For something more exclusive, luxury pontoons bring the reef to you — with personal marine guides and fine dining right on the water.

But the adventure doesn't end there. The Daintree Rainforest, 180 million years in the making, offers ziplining above ancient canopies, hidden waterfalls to chase, and rare cassowaries to spot. Take the Kuranda Scenic Railway one way, float back in gondolas over the lush canopies with Skyrail — both are unmissable.

If it's thrill you're after, the Barron River serves up white-water rafting with rainforest views you won't find anywhere else. Or push the edge at AJ Hackett Bungy — where you're not just jumping, you're freefalling into the heart of the rainforest.

For something gentler, a sunrise hot-air balloon ride over the Atherton Tablelands feels like floating inside a postcard – rolling hills, misty mornings, and kangaroos greeting the day.

Cairns & Great Barrier Reef isn't about chasing extremes — it's where nature hands you front-row access to some of its most breathtaking spectacles.

Getting There

Singapore Airlines provides seamless connections between India and Cairns via Singapore. Operating 94 times weekly from eight Indian cities and four times weekly between Singapore and Cairns, Singapore Airlines offers a world class inflight experience with award-winning service to make your journey even more memorable.

For more information scan the QR code or visit www.singaporeair.com

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Department of Science & Technology

Shri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Government of Karnataka

Shri D. K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister
Government of Karnataka

Inauguration of

India's first International Quantum-focused Summit

The Government of Karnataka is charting a bold course with Vision 2035, aiming to build a $20 billion quantum-powered economy that propels India to global leadership in quantum science and technology. This vision rests on five strategic pillars:

Talent Development | R&D Excellence | Infrastructure Creation | Industry Collaboration | Global Partnerships

With Quantum India Bengaluru Event, Karnataka sets the foundation for a thriving quantum ecosystem. Powering a Quantum-enabled Karnataka. And a Future-ready India.

EVENT THEMES

Quantum in Computing, Finance & AI | Quantum in Healthcare | Quantum in Security | Quantum Peripherals & Hardware | Quantum in Society & Art

Shri N.S. Boseraju, Hon'ble Minister for Minor Irrigation and Science & Technology, Government of Karnataka speeking at the Curtain Raiser of Quantum India Bengaluru 2025.

#QIB2025 www.quantumindiabengaluru.com

QUANTUM INDIA BENGALURU

Building a Quantum Ecosystem: Qubits to Society

INAUGURATION

Date : Thursday, July 31st, 2025 • **Time :** 10:00 am **Venue :** Grand Ballroom, Hotel Hilton, Bengaluru

Inauguration By

Shri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka

In the August Presence of

Shri. D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka

Guests of Honour

Shri N. S. Boseraju
Hon'ble Minister for Minor Irrigation and Science & Technology, Government of Karnataka

Shri M.B. Patil
Hon'ble Minister for Large and Medium Industries and Infrastructure Development , Government of Karnataka

Shri Krishna Byregowda
Hon'ble Minister for Revenue, Member of the Legislative Assembly Byatarayanapura Assembly Constituency, Government of Karnataka

Shri Priyank Kharge
Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development and Panchayat Raj and IT & Bt, Government of Karnataka

Dr. M.C. Sudhakar
Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education Government of Karnataka

We look forward to your gracious presence

Dr. Ekroop Caur, IAS
Secretary, Dept. of Electronics, Information Technology, Biotechnology and Science & Technology Government of Karnataka

Prof. Arindam Ghosh
Professor, IISc
Conference Chair
Quantum India Bengaluru 2025

Prof. Akshay Naik
Professor, IISc
Conference Co-Chair
Quantum India Bengaluru 2025

Sadhashiva Prabhu B, IAS
Director, Dept. of Science & Technology, Managing Director, Karnataka Science andTechnology Promotion Society (KSTePS) Government of Karnataka

ORGANISERS
KSTePS | IQTI

A BG-BGE

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Individuals arrested under UAPA between 2018 and 2022

8,947 Only two cases filed under the anti-terror law, Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, were quashed by courts across the country between 2018 and 2022. Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai presented the data from the latest NCRB report. PTI

The growth in Europe's economy in the April-June quarter

0.10 In per cent. Europe's economy barely grew in the April-June quarter as earlier efforts to ship goods ahead of new U.S. tariffs reversed, and output fell for the continent's largest economy, Germany. GDP grew an anaemic 0.1% compared to the previous quarter. AP

Road projects facing delays over land and clearance issues

489 Hundreds of road projects, which were originally scheduled for completion by March 2025, are pending due to delays in land acquisition, forest/wildlife clearances and railway approvals, Parliament was informed on Wednesday. PTI

Persons rescued from various districts in Madhya Pradesh

2,900 Several people, including school children, were stranded in parts of Madhya Pradesh's Shivpuri district due to a flood-like situation after heavy rains, prompting the authorities to call the Army for rescue and relief work. PTI

Estimated amount from cooperative fossil fuel levies every year

66 In $ billion. Smaller coalitions of fossil fuel-importing countries could generate $66 billion annually to help developing nations cut emissions, according to a new study by the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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Why were the 2006 Mumbai blasts accused freed?

What was the verdict handed down by a special Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act court in 2015? What happened in Mumbai on July 11, 2006? Why did the Bombay High Court state that the confessional statements of the convicts were inadmissible? What has the Supreme Court said?

EXPLAINER

Aaratrika Bhaumik

The story so far:

On July 21, the Bombay High Court acquitted all 12 accused in the 2006 Mumbai serial train blasts case, overturning the 2015 verdict by a special Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act (MCOCA) court that had sentenced five of them to death and seven to life imprisonment. Delivering a scathing indictment of the Mumbai Police's Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS), a Division Bench of Justices Anil S. Kilor and Shyam C. Chandak observed, "Punishing the actual perpetrator of a crime is a concrete and essential step toward curbing criminal activities, upholding the rule of law, and ensuring the safety and security of citizens. But creating a false appearance of having solved a case by presenting that the accused have been brought to justice gives a misleading sense of resolution. This deceptive closure undermines public trust and falsely reassures society, while in reality, the true threat remains at large. Essentially, this is what the case at hand conveys". Accordingly, the judgment ordered the release of 11 men after 19 years of incarceration. One of the accused had died in custody in 2021 due to COVID-19. Only one among them, Wahid Shaikh, had been acquitted earlier by the trial court in 2015 after it found no evidence against him. He had spent nine years in prison before being exonerated.

Murky truth: Indian railway officials clear debris of a local train which was ripped open by a bomb blast at Khar Mumbai on July 11, 2006. AFP

THE GIST

Nearly two decades ago, on July 11, 2006, Mumbai was shaken by a coordinated series of bomb blasts that left an indelible scar on the city's collective memory.

The prosecution's case rested primarily on eyewitness testimonies, the recovery of explosives, and confessional statements. However, the High Court found the evidence to be fundamentally compromised. It opined that the confessions were extracted through "barbaric and inhuman" torture, the eyewitness accounts lacked credibility, and that the recovered materials were "vulnerable to tampering" and therefore inadmissible.

On July 24, the Supreme Court stayed the High Court's verdict, taking note of the Maharashtra government's concern that the ruling could have adverse implications for several ongoing trials under the MCOCA

What is the case?

Nearly two decades ago, on July 11, 2006, Mumbai was shaken by a coordinated series of bomb blasts that left an indelible scar on the city's collective memory. Within a matter of minutes, seven explosions ripped through suburban trains on the Western Railway line during peak evening rush hour, killing 189 people and seriously injuring 824. According to the Mumbai Police, the bombs had been assembled using pressure cookers and strategically planted to cause maximum devastation during the city's busiest commute hours.

In the immediate aftermath, the Congress-led Maharashtra government handed over the investigation to the Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS). Eventually, 13 individuals were put on trial in connection with the blasts and 17 others, including Pakistani nationals, were named in the ATS chargesheet.

Why did the High Court set aside the convictions?

The prosecution's case rested primarily on eyewitness testimonies, the recovery of explosives, and confessional statements. However, the High Court found the evidence to be fundamentally compromised. It opined that the confessions were extracted through "barbaric and inhuman" torture, the eyewitness accounts lacked credibility, and that the recovered materials were "vulnerable to tampering" and therefore inadmissible. Some of the key findings include:

Unreliable eyewitnesses: The prosecution's case relied heavily on eight eyewitnesses, including taxi drivers who allegedly ferried the accused and train passengers who claimed to have seen them planting the bombs. However, the court deemed this testimony "unsafe," citing significant delays and a lack of corroboration. Most witnesses approached the police over three months after the incident, casting doubt on the reliability of their recollections. The court was particularly critical of the two taxi drivers, who remained silent for nearly four months. It found it implausible that they could accurately recall the faces of passengers given the fleeting and routine nature of taxi rides in a metropolis like Mumbai. Similarly, a witness who had assisted in preparing sketches of the suspects was never brought to testify in the trial or asked to identify the accused in court. A significant procedural lapse that further weakened the prosecution's case was the invalidity of the test identification parades. The special executive officer who conducted them, Shri Barve, lacked the legal authority, as his tenure had ended more than a year earlier. As a result, the identifications made during these parades, including those of three accused, were ruled inadmissible.

Coerced confessions: The High Court held that the confessional statements of the 11 convicts were inadmissible, citing grave violations of statutory safeguards. Most notably, the Bench concluded that the confessions had been extracted through torture. The judgment detailed chilling allegations by the accused, who described being beaten with belts, having their legs forcibly stretched apart, being subjected to electric shocks, and being deprived of sleep. These accounts were corroborated by medical reports from King Edward Memorial and Bhabha hospitals.

The prosecution's case was further weakened by the striking similarity across the confessions, even though they were recorded by different officers at different times and locations. The statements were found to be "verbatim", including the phrasing of questions, responses, and even grammatical errors, raising serious doubts about their voluntariness. The court also found that key procedural safeguards were ignored. The accused were not informed of their right to legal counsel before their statements were recorded, and there was neither certification of the language used nor any confirmation that the confessions were read back and acknowledged by them.

No 'prior sanction' under MCOCA: The High Court delivered a decisive blow to the prosecution by holding that the very invocation of the Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act, 1999 (MCOCA), was unlawful. The statute requires "prior sanction" by a competent authority, a police officer not below the rank of the Deputy Inspector General of Police, before it can be invoked in a case. This is a crucial safeguard since the stringent anti-terror law reverses the burden of proof, allows prolonged detention and dilutes evidentiary standards. The court found that the sanctioning officer had granted approval without examining the necessary documents, some of which were submitted only after the approval had been issued. "Mere reproduction of some expressions, used in the definition of 'organised crime', 'continuing unlawful activities' or 'organised crime syndicate' to show the compliance, cannot be said to be in tune with the letter and spirit of the law relating to grant of approval for invocation of the provisions of the MCOCA," the court underscored. The prosecution's failure to call the sanctioning officer as a witness further compounded the lapse. The court concluded that without his testimony, the approval for invoking MCOCA lacked legal validity.

Destruction of evidence: A key point of contention was the Call Detail Records (CDRs) of the accused. Although the defence repeatedly sought access to them, the prosecution claimed the records had been destroyed. The court found this deeply troubling, noting that the CDRs were crucial for establishing the accused's whereabouts during alleged conspiracy meetings and for verifying or refuting claims of contact with operatives in Pakistan. It concluded that the destruction of such potentially exculpatory evidence appeared deliberate and amounted to the suppression of material facts. This, the court held, cast "serious doubts over the integrity of the investigation" and constituted a "grave violation of the right to a fair trial."

The judges also found serious lapses in the handling of physical evidence allegedly recovered, such as RDX granules, detonators, pressure cookers, circuit boards, hooks, and maps. They pointed out that the prosecution's failure to maintain a clear chain of custody as well as not ensuring secure sealing before submission to the Forensic Science Laboratory severely compromised the evidentiary value of these items.

What did the Supreme Court say?

On July 24, the Supreme Court stayed the High Court's verdict, taking note of the Maharashtra government's concern that the ruling could have adverse implications for several ongoing trials under the MCOCA. However, a Bench of Justices M.M. Sundresh and N. Kotiswar Singh clarified that the stay would not affect the release of the 12 accused, who had already walked free following their acquittal. The court also issued notice to all the former convicts on the State's appeal challenging their acquittal.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE No.
Y-E-29-2025-26-33 Dt: 24.07.2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Description of Work	Approx. Value
Provision of Auxiliary Transformer for Interlocked LC gates in Mysuru Division-4 Nos HMRDC section	₹48,84,055.60/-

Last Date for Submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 16.08.2025**

For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/TR Mysuru
PUB/336/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26

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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE No.CAO/CN/BNC/132/2025 Dated 24-07-2025

The undersigned on behalf of the President of India invites E-tenders for the following works.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
(1) Penukonda - - Dharmavaram Doubling: Proposed construction of road over bridge (1x42 Composite Girder) + 5x18.71 PSC Girders other connected works at Ch:162115 in lieu of LC No.102 at Ch: 162178 between Makkajipalli to Nagasamudram Station. **(2)** Yelahanka - Penukonda: Construction of approach roads using RE wall technique for ROB in lieu of LC 71 at Chakarlapalli Yard between Yelahanka - Penukonda section including construction of Limited height Subway (LHS) of size (5.5m x 2.75m). **(3)** Penukonda - Dharmavaram Doubling: Construction of central drain between Penukonda - Makkajipalli section under for approx. length of 1575m in running traffic conditions (Composite Work) **(Tender Ref. No.: PKD-DMM-06-ROB-R).**	Rs.30,78,16,066/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 15:00 Hrs on 19-08-2025**

For details log on: **www.ireps.gov.in**

Deputy Chief Engineer / Construction / Works / Bengaluru Cantonment
PUB/341/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26

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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-(IREPS) TENDER NOTICE NO. 23 UBL 2025-26 Date : 24.07.2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders for the following works.

SN	Name of work	Approx. value
1	Hubballi Division- Proposed rehabilitation/Rplacement of Br No.219 UP line at Km.745/100-200 with RCC Box bridge in Londa- Miraj (LD-MRJ) section in between Vijayanagar-Miraj (VJR-MRJ) Section.	Rs.80,97,628.00
2	Hubballi Division- Miscellaneous- Annual maintenance activities for quarters/service buildings under Assistant Divisional Engineer/ Vijayapura jurisdiction- Hotgi (Excluding) to Basavanabagaewadi Road (Excluding). **(Special Works-3/A)**	Rs. 1,15,70,631.00
3	Hubballi Division- Miscellaneous- Annual maintenance activities for quarters/service buildings under Assistant Divisional Engineer/ Vijayapura jurisdiction- Bagalkot (incl) Kajjidoni (Incl) to Basavanbagewadi Road (Incl) to Badami (Excl) - **(Special Works-3/1A)**	Rs.1,28,77,429.00
4	Hubballi Division- Miscellaneous Annual maintenance activities for quarters/service buildings under Assistant Divisional Engineeer/Central/ Hubballi jurisdiction Annigere (Exel) - Gadag (Excl)- Badami (Incl) **(Special Work-4A)**	Rs.1,50,54,742.00
5	Hubballi Division- Miscellaneous Annual maintenance activities for Quarters/Service buildings under Assistant Divisional Engineeer/Central/ Hubballi jurisdiction: Karjagi (incl) Hubballi (Excl)-Anningere (incl) **(Special Work-4/1A)**	Rs. 1,48,62,522.00
6	Hubballi Division- Bagalkot-Jadaramankunti (BGK-JRKT) Section- CTR(P) of 13.9Km length from 94 to Km.108.	Rs. 6,86,03,326.00

Last Date for Submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 25.08.2025**

For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

Senior Divisional Engineer/Co-Ordination Hubballi
PUB/337/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26

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NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Open E-Tender Notice

Divl.Rly. Manager, N.W.Railway, Jaipur for and on behalf of President of India invites open E-Tender for the following works upto 15.30 hours on the date shown as below- **Name of work with location:** ENGG-JP-2025-26/54, Sewerage Treatment plant at RE, BKI, DO-100 kL capacity, **Approx Cost of work:** 22313021.53, **Earnest money Rs:** 261600.00, **Name of work with location:** ENGG-JP-2025-26/60, 1. ADEN/AWR Subdivision:- Construction of New building for 20 bedded indoor unit of Sub-Divisional Hospital Rewari. 2. Construction of Dog canal at Rewari station. 3. Construction of 5 Nos. tool room cum rest room for on duty gang staff in RE-BAI Section. 4. Construction of total 12 Nos. panel room at stations in RE-BAI section. 5. Construction of total 13 Nos. rooms at LC's in connection with the work of Replacement of (MLB) by Provision of Electric Lifting Barriers (ELB), **Approx Cost of work:** 29384381.68, **Earnest money Rs:** 296900.00, **Name of work with location:** ENGG-JP-2025-26/66, Jaipur:- Construction of New G+1 Zonal office of all India SC &ST Railway Employee Association NWR at Loco colony, **Approx Cost of work:** 10090591.08, **Earnest money Rs:** 200500.00, **Name of work with location:** ENGG-JP-2025-26/71, ADEN/HQ-I/JP Sub-Division:-Provision of false ceiling etc work in connection with "JP- Provision of new air-conditioning unit in place of old overaged air conditioning system installed at PHOD Chamber of all floors 1 st, 2nd and 3rd floor and renovation of HQ control office at NWR HQ building at GTJT., **Approx Cost of work:** 9795696.44, **Earnest money Rs:** 195900.00, **Name of work with location:** ENGG-JP-2025-26/72, Sr.DEN/E section: Replacement of old/Dilapidated quarters at RE, KRH, AWR stns Type-II(13 units), Type-III (05 units) & Type-IV (02 units) -Total (20units)., **Approx Cost of work:** 42284017.12, **Earnest money Rs:** 361400.00, **Name of work with location:** ENGG-JP-2025-26/73, Jp Division- Repairing of Off Track Tampers (engine Mounted Version) at Small track machine depot-Bandkui, **Approx Cost of work:** 1737763.98, **Earnest money Rs:** 34800.00. 1. Detail is available on N.W.Rly website-www.ireps.gov.in and Notice Board in WA section, DRM Office, NWR/Jaipur. 2. Tender No. ENGG-JP-2025-26/54,60,66, 71 to 73 is to be closed on 20.08.2025 at 15.30 hrs and opened on 20.08.2025 at 16.00 hrs.

932-PS/25

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KARNATAKA RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT LIMITED

(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Grameenabhivriddhi Bhavana, 4th & 5th Floor, Ananda Rao Circle, Bengaluru - 560 009.

No: KRIDL/WKS/CMT/TND/2025-26 Date:28.07.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The applications are invited for the supply of cement to KRIDL sub divisions in Karnataka from the manufacturers with a turnover stipulated in table below per annuam in last 3 financial years. Interested manufacturers to participate in the tender can view, download and apply only through the E-Governance Secretariat **New website:www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in Contact:** +91-9240214000, +91 9240214001, + 91 80 68948777, +91 80 46010000.

S. N	Particulars of Tender	Qty put to tender in bags	Aprx. Amount put to Tender in Rs. lakhs	EMD Amount in Rs. Lakhs	Required Turnover Per Annum of Firm Rs.in Lakhs
1	Tender Part-I Bengaluru & BBMP Zone	225000	784.50	11.77	2510.00
2	Tender Part-II Central (Chitradurga) Zone	380000	1321.00	15.00	4227.00
3	Tender Part-III Central Mysuru Zone	370000	1303.70	15.00	4171.00
4	Tender Part-IV Belagavi Zone	285000	895.14	13.43	2864.00
5	Tender Part-V Kalaburagi Zone	240000	762.40	11.45	2439.00

Period of supply three months from the date of Supply order.
- Last date and time for enquiry is **25.08.2025 up to 14.00 hrs.**
- Last date and time for receipt of tender **25.08.2025 up to 15.00 hrs.**
- Date of Opening of Technical Bid is on **28.08.2025 at 15.00 hrs.**
- Date of Opening of Financial Bid is on **30.08.2025 at 15.00 hrs.**

For further details please contact:
Chief Engineer (North)
KARNATAKA RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMET LTD, Bengaluru-09.
Phone: 080-28015605, Email: ddworkskridl@gmail.com
For information, please log on to: www.kridl.org.in

Sd/- Chief Engineer (North)

ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು

ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಸಿವಿಲ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಸಯ್ಯಾಜಿರಾವ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು. ಇ-ಮೇಲ್:eewmccmys@gmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಮೈನಪಾ/ಕಾ.ಇಂ(ಪ)/ಸಾ.ಟೆಂ.ಪ್ರ-12/2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 29.07.2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಕ್ರ ಸಂ.	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಒಟ್ಟು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು	ಒಟ್ಟು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಚಾಲ್ತಿಗೆ ಬರುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ:	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ
	ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು					
1.	ಮೈನಪಾ/ಕಾ.ಅ(ಪ)/ಟಿ.ಎನ್-30/ 2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ:29.07.2025	05	79.93	30.07.2025 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ರ ನಂತರ	12.08.2025 06.08.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.25 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ	13.08.2025 07.08.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.25ರ ನಂತರ
	ಸರ್ವೀಸ್ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ					
2.	ಮೈನಪಾ/ಕಾ.ಅ(ಪ)/ಟಿ.ಎನ್-31/ 2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ:29.07.2025	01	-	30.07.2025 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ರ ನಂತರ	06.08.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.25 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ	07.08.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.25ರ ನಂತರ
	EOI Works					
3.	ಮೈನಪಾ/ಉಆ(ಆ)ವಾ.ವಿ/ಪಿ.ಆರ್/ ಟಿ.ಎನ್-05/2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ:29.07.2025	01	-	30.07.2025 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ರ ನಂತರ	06.08.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.25 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ	07.08.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.25ರ ನಂತರ
		ಸರ್ವೀಸ್ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು				
		15	1488.00	30.07.2025 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ರ ನಂತರ	06.08.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.25 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ	07.08.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.25ರ ನಂತರ
4.	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಹೆಚ್1/ಪವಿ/ 101/2022-2023 ದಿನಾಂಕ:28.07.2025	**Goods Tender & Service Tender**				
		11	640.73	30.07.2025 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ರ ನಂತರ	18.08.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.25 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ	20.08.2025 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10.30ರ ನಂತರ

ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರವನ್ನು ಕಚೇರಿ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಕಾ.ಅ (ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ) ರವರ ಕಚೇರಿಯನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.

ವಿಶೇಷ ಸೂಚನೆ: ಮುಂದೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಸೂಚನೆ / ಬದಲಾವಣೆ / ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ (**https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**) ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಯಾವುದೇ ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು(ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ)
ಮೈಸೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು

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EDUCATIONAL

GENERAL

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Admissions to the residential program are done only on the basis of an entrance test. Candidates may register for the entrance test by paying a registration fee of Rs 700+ GST by visiting https://blog.forumias.com/frc7. For any queries candidates may write to ravi@forumias.com. There are 2 seats from each state in FRC in every batch, and 40% hostel capacity is reserved for women candidates. Candidates from Southern India, North East and Women candidates are encouraged to apply.

frc.ops@flaviant.com 9311740938 TAPASYA SCHOOL OF LEARNING

PERSONAL

THANKSGIVING

Prayer to St. Jude

St. Jude, glorious Apostle, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the name of the traitor has caused you to be forgotten by many, but the true Church invokes you universally as the Patron of things despaired of; pray for me, who am so miserable; pray for me, that finally I may receive the consolations and the succor of Heaven in all my necessities, tribulations and sufferings, particularly (here make your request), and that I may bless God with the Elect throughout Eternity. Amen
Thanksgiving by Isha

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, KETAKI Iyer Kumar, d/o: Iyer Kumar Mahadevan r/o: No–69, Green Garden, Phase–2, Banjara Layout, Horamavu, Blr–560043. Have changed my name as Ketaki Kumar. Vide affidavit on 29/07/2025.

I, JAI Sudha Narendran W/o Narendran M D Residing at #2000, Ganga Street, Chandra Shekar layout, Behind small Kumaran school, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bangalore 560916 Have changed my Name to Jaya Sudha.

I, ZAREENA W/o Syed Mahaboob, R/o No.1055, 2nd Main, 3rd Cross, Islampur, Annasnadra Palya, Vimanapura, Bengaluru-560017 have changed my name to Zarina vide affidavit dt: 30.07.2025 sworn before Notary Smt. Vatsala, B'lore

I, Tintu Tanmay Degwekar D/o A. M. Saleem & Ex W/o Tanmay Arvind Degwaker Residing at Flat 2a Cassia Court, 91 Coles Road, Frazer Town, Bengaluru, Karnataka – 560005, I Got Divorce From My Ex-husband Vide Court Decree & F-237 of 2017 Dated 09-08- 2017, I Have Changed My Name From Tintu Tanmay Degwekar to Tintu Saleem, and Shall Hereafter Be Known as Tintu Saleem for All Future Purposes.

I, Amit Narain Ahuja S/O Surinder Narain Ahuja R/O Villa D01, Gr One And Only, Sy No 77/4 77/5, Behind Gr Sankalpa Apartments, Choodasandra, Po- Chandapura, Ist-Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560099, Have Changed The Name Of My Minor Daughter Namely Demyraa Ahuja (Aged 14 Years 8 Months) And She Shall Hereafter Be Known As Amaira Ahuja For All Future Purposes.

I, Tahiya Alias Tahiya Shariff W/O Malik Naseruddin & D/O Khalak Shariff Residing At 2, Ishaq Saheb Street, Near Fun World, Po-J C Nagar, Dist-Bengaluru, Karnataka-560006, Have Changed My Name To Tahiya Shariff For All Future Purposes.

I, Roseline Porkodi Michael Alias Rosaline Porkodi Michael W/o Dominique David Michael. Residing at No 1341 1st Floor, B-35 Bda Flats 2nd Stage, Austine Town Layout, Bangalore South, Viveknagar, Bangalore South, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560047, Have Changed My Name to Porkodi Michael for All Future Purposes.

I, N Vatchala Ramachandran W/o N Ramachandran residing at #102, 1st Main, 4th Cross, Srinivasa Nagar, BSK 1st Stage, Bangalore-560 050, have changed my name to N Vatchala.

BENGALURU SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT LIMITED

Office of the Deputy General Manager-1,BSWML, 1st Floor, BBMP Building, Thimmaiah Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru – 560 052.

No: DGM-1/BSWML/TEND/08/2025-26 **Date:30.07.2025**

INVITATION FOR TENDER

(Only through GOK KPP Portal Only)

The Deputy General Manager-1, Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited on behalf of the Managing Director, BSWML, Bengaluru invites bids from eligible bidders for the Services mentioned in the table given below.

Sl No	Package Name	Amount Put to Tender per annum (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD (in Rs.) through e payment mode only under of the following i.e., online / RTGS/ NEFT / OTC	Cost of Tender Document	Contract period
1	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in CV Ramanagara division (Package-P1) **Call-2**	1,477.85	Rs.15,00,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
2	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Shanthinagara division (Package-P2) **Call-2**	1,411.47	Rs.15,00,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
3	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Sarvagnanagara division (Package-P3) **Call-2**	1,751.21	Rs.17,51,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
4	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Shivajinagara division (Package-P4) **Call-2**	1,723.87	Rs.17,24,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
5	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Hebbal division (Package-P5) **Call-2**	1,516.13	Rs.15,16,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
6	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Pulakeshinagara division (Package-P6) **Call-2**	1,670.62	Rs.16,71,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
7	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Gandhinagara division (Package-P7) **Call-2**	1,596.60	Rs.15,97,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
8	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Govindarajanagara division (Package-P8) **Call-2**	1,338.43	Rs.15,00,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
9	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Rajajinagara division (Package-P9) **Call-2**	1,344.67	Rs.15,00,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
10	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Malleshwaram division (Package-P10) **Call-2**	1,796.89	Rs.17,97,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
11	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Mahalaxmi Layout division. (Package-P11) **Call-2**	1,284.40	Rs.15,00,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
12	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Chamarajpete division (Package-P12) **Call-2**	1,485.14	Rs.15,00,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
13	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Chickpete division (Package-P13) **Call-2**	2,016.27	Rs. 20,16,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
14	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Basavanagudi division (Package-P14) **Call-2**	1,724.99	Rs.17,25,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
15	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Vijayanagara division (Package-P15) **Call-2**	2,141.86	Rs. 21,42,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
16	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Padmanabhanagara division (Package-P16) **Call-2**	2,294.65	Rs. 22,95,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
17	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Jayanagara division (Package-P17) **Call-2**	1,284.64	Rs.15,00,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
18	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in BTM Layout division (Package-P18) **Call-2**	1,769.59	Rs.17,70,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
19	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Bommanahalli division (Package-P19) **Call-2**	2,597.46	Rs. 25,97,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
20	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Bangalore South-1 division. (Package-P20) **Call-2**	1,438.14	Rs.15,00,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
21	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Bangalore South-2 division (Package-P21) **Call-2**	955.72	Rs.14,34,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
22	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Dasarahalli-1 division (Package-P22) **Call-2**	1,505.73	Rs.15,06,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
23	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Dasarahalli-2 division (Package-P23) **Call-2**	1,494.27	Rs.15,00,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
24	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Mahadevapura-1 division (Package-P24) **Call-2**	1,898.76	Rs.18,99,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
25	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Mahadevapura-2 division (Package-P25) **Call-2**	1,865.37	Rs.18,65,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
26	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in KR Puram-1 division (Package-P26) **Call-2**	1,416.48	Rs.15,00,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
27	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in KR Puram-2 division (Package-P27) **Call-2**	1,690.51	Rs.16,91,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
28	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Yeshwanthpura-1division (Package-P28) **Call-2**	1,457.77	Rs.15,00,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
29	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Yeshwanthpura-2 division (Package-P29) **Call-2**	1,569.52	Rs.15,70,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
30	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in RR Nagara-1 division (Package-P30) **Call-2**	1,633.64	Rs.16,34,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
31	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in RR Nagara-2division (Package-P31) **Call-2**	1,859.56	Rs.18,60,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
32	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Yelahanka division (Package-P32) **Call-2**	1,214.38	Rs.15,00,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months
33	Primary Collection and Secondary Transportation of Municipal solid waste (MSW) and Street sweeping waste in Byatarayanapura division (Package-P33) **Call-2**	2,265.34	Rs. 22,65,000/-	As per e-Portal	84 Months

1) Last date to upload pre-bid queries in KPP Portal : **12.08.2025 before 16:00 hrs 2)** Tender Pre Bid meeting : **13.08.2025 at 16:00 hrs at** IPP center, #72/4, 16th cross road, Vyalikaval, Kodandaramapura, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560003 **3)** Last Date of Receipt of Tender : **30.08.2025 before 16:00 hrs. 4)** Opening of Technical Bid : **01.09.2025 after 10:30 hrs.**

More details can be downloaded from website - **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/CP/JA/2116/2025-26

Sd/-
Deputy General Manager -1, BSWML

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BUILDING BLOCKS

GETTY IMAGES

How does the Indian harmonium produce its lively music?

The sounds of an Indian harmonium seem 'alive' because the instrument doesn't run on the clinical power of electrical energy but on a human body in motion. This may also explain why it became a staple of Indian classical, devotional, and folk music

Vasudevan Mukunth

The Indian portable harmonium is a close cousin of the larger foot-pumped organs once found in European churches and homes. It's a wooden box roughly the size of a small suitcase. You sit on the floor behind it and pump a pair of bellows with one hand and play piano-like keys with the other. All these instruments work on the same simple idea: air is pushed past metal strips called reeds; when they vibrate, musical notes are created. The sound of the harmonium has been a staple of both Indian folk music and mainstream cinema.

How does a harmonium use air?
A harmonium doesn't have strings, membranes or electronic circuits. Instead, its 'fuel' is air in motion.

When the bellows attached to the instrument are pulled open, they suck some of the air in the room into their folded chambers, funnelled through inlet valves. When you push the bellows closed, the air is squeezed forward into an airtight wooden compartment that lies directly under the harmonium keys.

Because the compartment's walls don't move, the air pressure within rises above normal atmospheric pressure by a small amount, usually a few kilopascals. The compartment also holds a slender internal spring or a weighted flap that helps maintain this pressure, even if you don't pump the bellows at a regular rate.

In fact, as long as you pump the bellows every few seconds, the reeds will feel enough pressure to make sounds.

How does a harmonium make sound?
The keyboard on top of the harmonium resembles a piano in miniature. But unlike in a piano, each key is only a lever. If you press a key, its far end tilts upward inside the box, lifting a pallet lined with felt.

The pallet covers a hole that leads from the pressurised wooden compartment to a single metal reed. When the key is at rest, the pallet closes the hole and no air flows. When you press the key, the pallet opens, allowing high-pressure air to rush through the hole and towards the reed.

Most Indian harmoniums expose 1.5 to 3 reeds to each hole. A stop rod next to the keyboard allows you to choose which set of reeds, called a bank, is active at any time. If you slide out one stop rod, an extra airway opens so the same key can expose a second bank that is tuned to one octave higher or lower, creating a more organ-like tone.

How does each reed operate?
Every reed is essentially a tongue of brass or phosphor-bronze nailed on top of a rectangular slot in a metal frame. When air pressure rises on the front side, the tongue bends slightly into the slot, allowing a puff of air to slip past to the rear. The same puff now exerts pressure on the back side of the tongue, pushing it forward again.

This rapid seesawing motion sets up a vibration with a frequency of hundreds of hertz for higher notes and around 100 Hz for the lower ones.

The vibrating reed shreds the air stream into pulses, which bounce around inside the box before spreading into the room as sound waves. Because the reed is fixed at one end and free at the other, its pitch depends mainly on its length, thickness, and mass. The shorter or thinner the reed, the higher its natural frequency will be.

Unlike flutes or trumpets, the harmonium's reeds sit inside a wooden cavity rather than an open pipe. As a result, larger cavities produce lower notes and vice versa. The wooden compartment, the leather that makes the bellows, and even the player's lap all absorb or reflect certain frequencies, giving each instrument a unique timbre.

Because warmer air is less dense, reeds in such an atmosphere will also have a slightly higher pitch. Professional players thus often carry small screwdrivers to tweak the reeds' sounds before a performance.

Why does the sound seem 'alive'?
The harder you pump the bellows, the louder the sounds will be. This is simply because stronger pumping raises the pressure in the compartment and moves the reeds harder. Fluent players often use quick pulses on the bellows to produce sharp accents and ease off to create graceful decrescendos. Many designs also include a coupling lever that, when engaged, connects a key to the key one octave higher, so pressing a single note automatically depresses its octave partner without forcing the player's fingers to stretch. Second, because the reed's vibrations feed on the pumping, the instrument can be made to respond to the smallest motions. Players can brighten a note by pumping in a short burst or stall it to thin the note.

More fundamentally, the sounds of an Indian harmonium seem 'alive' because the instrument doesn't run on the clinical power of electrical energy but on a human body in motion. This may also explain why it became a staple of Indian classical, devotional, and folk music, including its willingness to accompany singers outdoors, through power cuts, and even play through the humid monsoons.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Former Kerala Chief Minister V.S. Achuthanandan passed away recently at the age of 101. A quiz on the Communist icon, popularly known as VS

Radhika Santhanam

QUESTION 1
Alappuzha is a major production hub for this product. VS worked in this industry and also organised workers of this industry. Name the product.

QUESTION 2
In 2009, VS was removed from the Politburo for taking a stand against Pinarayi Vijayan in the SNC-Lavlin case. He likened Vijayan to a Soviet leader. Name that leader.

QUESTION 3
In 2014, delivering a blow to VS, the Kerala High Court found fault with his government's decision in 2007 to raze resort buildings which appeared to be built on encroached land in X. Name X, a tea plantation town.

QUESTION 4
During the 1962 India-China war, VS was imprisoned for a year because he defied the CPI's stance. What did he do to incur the wrath of the party?

QUESTION 5
VS deeply admired X. This revolutionary served as Prime Minister and later as President of his country in the Caribbean. VS was also likened to this leader by former CPI(M) general secretary, Sitaram Yechury. Name the leader.

QUESTION 6
This celebrity received an offer in the early 2000s to become the face of a soft drink brand. When he agreed, he found himself embroiled in a controversy. When VS issued an ultimatum to the actor, he withdrew his decision. Name the celebrity and the brand.

Visual question:
This is a martyrs' memorial to those killed in an uprising against the Travancore monarchy. VS was involved in organising workers ahead of the uprising. Name this revolt.

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The title of the art society exhibition in 1890 where Van Gogh's work was displayed. **Ans: Les XX (Les Vingt) in Brussels**
2. The short-lived artist colony Van Gogh hoped to establish in Arles, and its only member. **Ans: The Studio of the South; the only artist who joined was Paul Gauguin**
3. The Red Vineyard was purchased by this person. **Ans: The Red Vineyard was purchased by Belgian artist Anna Boch**
4. Van Gogh's reported final words. **Ans: His final words were reportedly: "*La tristesse durera toujours*" (The sadness will last forever)**
5. This artist painted Van Gogh on his deathbed. **Ans: Émile Bernard**
Visual question: The title of this painting, and how it stand outs among Van Gogh's body of work. **Ans: The painting is titled 'Orchard with Cypresses'. It was sold at Christie's in November 2022 for a staggering $117.18 million, making it the most expensive Van Gogh painting ever sold at public auction**
Early Birds: Nobody got all the correct answers

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know Your English

K. Subrahmanian
S. Upendran

"What's wrong? Why the long face?"
"Long face! Listen, I'm terribly unhappy about something, so please don't...."
"....that's what I want to know. Why the long face? "
"Long face! Long face! What are you talking about?"
"If you say that someone is walking around with a long face, it means he/she is looking very unhappy or serious. For example, I can say, after losing in the final, Anand was walking around with a long face."
"Can I say, every year before the Board exam, the principal walks around with a long face?"
"You certainly can. I guess the principal has a lot of students like you. So, he's worried if you guys will pass or not! Ha! Ha!"
"That's not funny."
"Sorry. Yesterday, I saw Sujatha going around with a long face and today it's you. Is there a long face virus going around!"
"Sujatha has every right to be walking around with a long face."
"Why? Anything happened?"
"Haven't you heard? I broke her father's camera yesterday. And she's really mad about me."
"You broke her father's camera and she likes you for that?"
"She likes me for that? Are you crazy? I'm trying to tell you that she is really angry with me. She is really mad about me!"
"Not mad about me, but mad at me!"
"What?"
"If you say that someone is mad about something, it means he/she is crazy about it. He/she likes it very much. For example, my cousin Karthick is mad about cricket."
"Sujatha's father is mad about photography."
"For years you have been mad about Madhuri!"
"And you've been mad about Goldie Hawn!"
"True. If on the other hand, someone is angry with you, then you say mad at. For example, the students were mad at the teacher for giving them a surprise test."
"Sujatha's dad was mad at her for taking the camera out of the cupboard."
"Are your parents mad at you too?"
"My father was extremely angry. He's offered to pay Sujatha's father."
"Sounds pretty serious."
"It is. My father is really mad at me. Well, I guess I'd better be going. I'd better study."
"Why? Do you expect the teacher to give you a pop quiz tomorrow?"
"A what?"
"A pop quiz! You know a surprise test!"
"Is that what pop quiz means? A surprise test?"
"That's right. When I was in fifth standard, my teacher used to give a lot of pop quizzes."
"Last year we didn't have a single pop quiz. I hope the trend continues this year too."
"Then, why are you going home to study?"
"Just trying to impress my pop, I guess. See you!"
Published in The Hindu on June 17, 1997.

Word of the day

Bellow:
a very loud utterance (like the sound of an animal); shout loudly and without restraint

Synonyms: holler, roar, yowl, bawl

Usage: *His bellow filled the hallway.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/bellowpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈbɛloʊ/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Advertisement

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"Uttarakhand's industrial journey is not just a story of economic development, but also a powerful effort towards realizing the dreams of the state's youth, women, and entrepreneurs. Through investment and industries, Uttarakhand is moving towards fulfilling the dream of a self-reliant, prosperous, and developed India."

Pushkar Singh Dhami
Chief Minister, Uttarakhand

Destination Uttarakhand

Promoting Sustainable Development

Promotion of Industry and Investment

The progress made in the field of industry and investment in Uttarakhand in recent years is extremely important for the state's economic, social, and cultural development. Investor summits have placed the state on the global investment map. Due to the government's visionary policies, an investor-friendly environment, infrastructure development, and better utilization of local resources, Uttarakhand is moving towards becoming one of the best states in the country in the future.

'House of Himalayas' was launched by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi during the Investors Summit

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah and CM Pushkar Singh Dhami reviewing Patanjali's products

"The construction of a developed India in the 21st century rests on two main pillars. First, pride in our heritage, and second, every possible effort for development. Today, Uttarakhand is strengthening both these pillars. This decade will be Uttarakhand's decade."

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

Uttarakhand is scaling new heights in investment, innovation, and industrial development

Following the Global Investors Summit held in Uttarakhand in December 2023, the state celebrated the successful grounding of investments worth ₹1 lakh crore. On this occasion, Union Home Minister Amit Shah highly praised the efforts of the state government and assured full support from the central government.

The Union Home Minister inaugurated and laid the foundation stones for various projects worth a total of ₹1,342.84 crore. This included the foundation stone laying for 16 projects worth ₹1,263.5 crore and the inauguration of 4 projects worth ₹79.34 cr.

MoUs and Grounding from the Global Investors Summit

Energy Sector – 157 MoUs worth ₹1,03,459 crore (Employment: 8,472); grounded investment: ₹40,341 crore

Industrial Sector – 658 MoUs worth ₹78,448 crore (Employment: 44,663); grounded investment: ₹34,086 crore

Housing Sector – 125 MoUs worth ₹41,947 crore (Employment: 5,172); grounded investment: ₹10,055 crore

Tourism Sector – 437 MoUs worth ₹47,646 crore (Employment: 4,694); grounded investment: ₹8,635 crore

Higher Education Sector – 28 MoUs worth ₹6,675 crore (Employment: 4,428); grounded investment: ₹5,116 crore

Other Sectors – 374 MoUs worth ₹79,518 crore (Employment: 13,898); grounded investment: ₹3,292 crore

Uttarakhand Nivesh Utsav - 2025
Grounding of ₹1 Lakh Crore in Investments

Investor Summit: A Milestone

The Uttarakhand Global Investor Summit, inaugurated by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, proved to be a historic turning point in the state's economic development. Thousands of investors and industry groups from India and abroad participated in this summit, clearly reflecting their eagerness to invest in the state. The government had set a target of ₹2.5 trillion in investment, but agreements worth more than ₹3.5 trillion were signed, which shows investor's confidence in the state's potential.

Record-Breaking Investment : The record-breaking agreements made at the summit indicate the growing confidence of investors in the state's economic progress.

Interest in Diverse Sectors : Investment proposals were received in various sectors such as energy, manufacturing, service sector, tourism, agriculture, IT, and Ayush, highlighting the state's versatile potential.

Job Creation : These investments are expected to create large-scale employment opportunities at the local level, which will also help in tackling the problem of migration.

Brand Uttarakhand: The Prime Minister emphasized promoting the state's local products and women's self-help groups by launching brands like 'House of Himalayas', which will strengthen the rural economy.

Government Initiatives & Future Plans

The Uttarakhand government is committed to attracting investment and promoting industry. It has undertaken several important initiatives and prepared a clear roadmap for the future. Read on to know more...

New Industrial Policies : New and revised industrial policies have been introduced for various sectors, making investment attractive.

Single Window System : The 'Single Window System' is being strengthened to simplify the investment process and eliminate unnecessary delays.

Infrastructure Development : Special attention is being given to the development of basic facilities such as roads, railways, airports, and electricity.

Skill Development : Emphasis is being placed on skill development programs to train youth according to industry demands, which will help in job creation.

Promotion of Local Entrepreneurship : Special schemes are being run to promote Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), including cheap loans, technical training, and export incentives. Women entrepreneurs are also being specially encouraged.

Sustainable Development : The state government is committed to achieving sustainable development goals, which will promote environmentally friendly and long-term investment.

Challenges and the Way Forward

While Uttarakhand has immense investment potential, there are also some challenges that need attention:

Landslides and Disasters : Being a hilly region, landslides and natural disasters can be a challenge, requiring strong infrastructure and disaster management plans.

Migration : Lack of employment opportunities is a serious problem, which needs more local job creation to control it.

Development of Mountainous Regions: Ensuring equitable distribution of investment and promoting industries in mountainous regions is important to reduce regional imbalance.

Marketing of Local Products : Strong marketing strategies and branding are needed to take local products to national and international markets.

Despite these challenges, the new partnership being formed between the Uttarakhand government and investors is laying the foundation for a strong and prosperous state. The investor summit has made it clear that Uttarakhand is not just a tourist destination, but also an emerging industrial hub. In the future, this state will certainly play a significant role in India's economic development and contribute to realizing the dream of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' (Self-Reliant India).

This is just the beginning. If the government effectively implements its policies and investors fulfill their promises, Uttarakhand can truly establish itself as an 'Udyam Bhoomi' where employment opportunities will be created, income will increase, and ultimately the living standards of the people of the state will rise. This is the first step towards a golden future for Devbhoomi.

Key Investment Areas and Opportunities

There are many areas in Uttarakhand with immense investment potential

TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY

Uttarakhand is known as 'Devbhoomi' and has immense tourism potential. There is huge scope for investment in areas such as Char Dham Yatra, adventure tourism, wildlife tourism, yoga and wellness tourism, and destination weddings. The government has also launched special schemes to encourage tourism entrepreneurs.

Destination Wedding : Emphasis is being placed on establishing Uttarakhand as a destination for weddings, which will increase tourism revenue.

Adventure Tourism : Investment in adventure sports like trekking, river rafting, and skiing can attract tourists.

Wellness Tourism : Uttarakhand is an ideal place for yoga, Ayurveda, and naturopathy, where there are investment opportunities in wellness resorts and centers.

New Tourism Policies : Policies like the 'Uttarakhand Tourism Entrepreneur Promotion Scheme-2024' have been implemented by the state government to encourage investment in the tourism sector.

AGRICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE

Despite being a hilly state, Uttarakhand has a rich base of agriculture and horticulture. Investment in organic farming, cultivation of medicinal plants, processing of fruits and vegetables, floriculture, and development of herbal products can increase farmer's income.

Organic Farming : Efforts are being made to make Uttarakhand an organic state, which opens up a large market for organic products.

Medicinal Plants : Investment in the cultivation and processing of medicinal plants found in the Himalayan region will promote the pharmaceutical and Ayush industries.

Food Processing : Establishing processing units for fruits, vegetables, dairy, and meat products will lead to value addition and job creation.

New Policies: New policies have also been introduced to promote crops like millets, kiwi, and dragon fruit.

ENERGY SECTOR

Uttarakhand is known for its hydroelectric potential. Besides this, there are significant investment opportunities in solar energy and small hydropower projects. The state government has implemented the Solar Energy Policy 2023, which is boosting investment in this sector.

Hydroelectric Projects : The state has potential for several small and large hydroelectric projects, which can become a source of clean energy.

Solar Energy : Uttarakhand's geographical location is favorable for solar energy generation, and government subsidies are encouraging investment in this sector.

Energy Security : Investment in the energy sector will ensure the state's energy security and reduce external dependence.

IT AND STARTUPS

The IT and startup sectors are being given special importance in Uttarakhand to promote entrepreneurship among the youth. The government has implemented the 'Uttarakhand Startup Policy 2023', which offers seed funding, monthly allowances, and other incentives.

Incubation Centers : The government aims to establish incubation centers in every district within the next three years to provide startups with a suitable platform.

Technical Education : The state has several technical institutions that are producing a skilled workforce for IT and related sectors.

Digital Infrastructure : Investment in the development of digital infrastructure will provide better connectivity for IT companies and startups.

AYUSH AND WELLNESS

Uttarakhand has a unique identity in the field of Ayurveda, Yoga, and Naturopathy. Investment in Ayush hospitals, wellness centers, yoga studios, and the production of Ayurvedic medicines can establish a global presence here.

Ayush Health and Wellness Centers: 200 Ayush Health and Wellness Centers are being established in the state with the cooperation of the central government.

Traditional Knowledge : Ayush products can be developed by utilizing the traditional medical practices and knowledge that have existed in Uttarakhand for centuries.

FILM INDUSTRY

Uttarakhand's picturesque valleys are becoming a favourite destination for filmmakers. The government has implemented the 'Uttarakhand Film Policy 2024', which offers several incentives, including the construction of a film city and grants for films.

Shooting Locations : Uttarakhand offers a diverse range of shooting locations that attract filmmakers.

Local Employment : Film production will create local employment for artists, technicians, and other support staff.

Promotion of Tourism : Films promote the state, which also boosts tourism.

Sankalp
Naye Uttarakhand Ka

Investment friendly environment and policies attracts entrepreneurs

For more details, please scan QR code
or visit https://investuttarakhand.uk.gov.in/

BBMP plans to set up canine monitoring centre at Yelahanka

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is setting up a dog monitoring centre at Yelahanka to observe canines that are involved in repeated dog bite cases.

A senior BBMP officer explained that the centre will function like a community kennel, where a behaviourist will be deployed. Dogs displaying unprovoked aggression will be brought in and monitored for a few days.

"The behaviourist will train the dog before releasing it back to the same location," he said, adding that each BBMP zone will maintain records of dogs involved in repeated biting incidents.

Chandraiah T., joint director of Animal Husbandry at BBMP, said they have captured 33 dogs from the area where an elderly citizen was mauled to death on Tuesday. He said that they will monitor the dogs for the next 10 days to determine whether any are infected with rabies.

"Usually, a rabid dog will die within 10 days. So these dogs will be observed at a lab during this period for any behavioural changes requiring attention," Mr. Chandraiah told *The Hindu*. "Once the monitoring ends, we will release the dogs back to the same location as per the guidelines," he added.

A senior BBMP official said they would examine the possible cause of the attack, including whether starvation was a factor.

A BBMP official noted that Kempegowda Nagar falls under the Vidyaranyapura ward, which has approximately 943 dogs. He claimed that this particular area has a higher dog population, and all of them have been vaccinated.

However, appearing before the Lokayukta following a summons, Siddappaji, the health officer for BBMP's Yelahanka zone, informed the ombudsman that they attend to about 15 to 20 dog bite cases every month from Byatarayanapura ward, located near the scene of the recent attack.

IISc donates air purifier

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

During the Guru Vandana celebration at Soundarya Composite PU College recently, a smart air purifier was inaugurated. Donated by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), the cyclofine air purifier was developed in collaboration with IIT Madras.

Praveen C. Ramamurthy, professor from the Centre for Nano Science and Engineering , IISc, explained its features and impact.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
NOTIFICATION
Bengaluru, 23 July, 2025

S.O. 3394(E)- In exercise of the powers conferred by clause 37(A) of Section 2 of the Railways Act, 1989 (Act no. 24 of 1989) the Ministry of Railway (South Western Railway, Construction Organization, Bengaluru Cantonment) hereby notifies the project, as "Special Railway Project" mentioned in the table below, in the State of Karnataka for providing National Infrastructure for a Public Purpose with effect from date of publication of the notification in the Official Gazette.

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Village	Taluk	District
1	Traffic Facilities work at Malavi: Construction of Crossing Station at Malavi(H) between HBI - KTY section	Malavi	Hagaribommanahalli	Vijaynagar

No.W.271/CN/BNC/2025-26/Land SRP/1727
For details log on: https://egazette.gov.in
Pardeep Puri, Chief Engineer-III/Construction
Bengaluru Cantonment
PUB/346/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI - 221004
BID No. E-24/2025-26 **Date: 29.07.2025**

E-Tender invited for & on behalf of the President of India for the supply of following items. Only e-offer will be accepted for which vendors must have class-III Digital Signature and registration of IREPS. The details of tender are in the following sequence: **S. No.; Tender No.; Due Date; Description; PL No. and Quantity. 1; 10251121;** 18.08.2025; Bearing compressor-SFD; 16150284; 743 Nos. **2; 10251040;** 18.08.2025; Pump assembly (Turbo soak back Pump); 16060210; 616 Nos. **3; 10251197;** 20.08.2025; Water pump repair Kit; 16070124, 3891 Nos. **4; 10251117;** 22.09.2025; Bearing Con Rod upper; 16150193; 4297 Nos. **5; 06255004;** 18/08/2025; Modification/Retro-fitment of ADD/ORD feature in High Reach Pantograph; 170 Set. **6; 06251011A;** 18/08/2025; (i) Distributed Power Wireless Control System; 29171532; 388 Nos.; (ii) AMC for Distributed Power Wireless Control System; 29171544; 388 Nos. **7; 06251768B;** 03/10/2025; SET OF EARTHING CABLE; 29600390; 666 Set. **8; 09251135A;** Open Tender (13/08/2025) SUPPLY OF ENHANCED COOLING CAPACITY (2.5 TR) CAB MOUNTED COMPACT HVAC WITH BUILT IN INVERTER FOR HHP DIESEL ELECTRIC LOCOMOTIVE; (PL.No. 18050128); Qty. 922 Nos. RETRO-FITMENT OF CAB AIR-CONDITIONING EQUIPMENT IN HHP DIESEL ELECTRIC LOCOMOTIVE; (PL No.17545869); Qty. 922 Nos. **9; 09251023A;** Open Tender (04/09/2025); SET OF CONNECTORS FOR LOCO EXCEPT PANEL FOR WAG-9; (PL No. 29615495); Qty.50 set. **10; 04251023A;** 08.08.2025; 3D Adjustable 360 Degree Rotational Modified Driver Seat to PL No.29171726; 2940 Nos. **11; 01251057;** 18-08-25; Gear Turbo Idler; 16141490; 411 Nos. **12; 03251136;** (02.09.2025): SUPPLY, INSTALLATION AND COMMISSIONING OF WATER-LESS URINAL SYSTEM; P.L NO. 29171660: 100 set. **13; 03251013A;** (18.08.2025); HOSE FOR CAB HEATER to PL No. 29232685; 1486 MTR. The details of above Tenders are available on website **www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in** and **www.ireps.gov.in. Corrigendum:-14; E-21/2025-26;** 03251010B; Tender due date read as 01.08.25 instead of 08.08.25. **Note:-** All other terms and conditions will remain unchanged for above tenders.
PR/BLW/S-25 **Principal Chief Material Manager**
/blwvaranasi **Website: blw.indianrailways.gov.in**

Government of Maharashtra
Directorate of Sports and Youth Services, Maharashtra State

Notice For E-Tender

Functioning of High-Performance Center for Archery at Amravati / Badminton at Nagpur/Boxing at Akola/Table Tennis at Nashik under Mission Lakshyavedh scheme

Directorate of Sports and Youth Services, Maharashtra State, Pune is inviting Request For proposals from interested individuals/institutions through e-tender for the Functioning of a High-Performance Center for **Archery at Amravati / Badminton at Nagpur/Boxing at Akola / Table Tennis** at Nashik, under **Mission Lakshyavedh** scheme. For the detailed Tender document, interested bidders should visit http://mahatenders.gov.in. Tender submission would be online and the last date for submission of the proposals is 13th August 2025 upto 04.00 PM

Sd/-
(Shital Teli - Ugale) I.A.S.
Commissioner
Sports & Youth Services
Maharashtra State

DGIPR/2025-2026/1874

BENGALURU METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION
CENTRAL OFFICE: STORES & PURCHASE DEPARTMENT
K.H. ROAD, SHANTHINAGAR, BENGALURU-560 027
NO: BMTC/CO/COSP/TENDER/06 /2025-26 Date: 30.07.2025

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

B.M.T.C invites tender for procurement of the following Goods / Services through KPP Portal:

Sl. No.	Tender No.	Description	Last Date for Bid Sub-mission in KPP Portal
		Short Term Tender	
1	BMTC/ 2024-25/ SE0730/ Call-4	Selection of Technology Solution provider for Supply, Commissioning and Maintenance of Smart Electronic Ticketing Machines with Comprehensive ticketing Solution on Rental Basis for BMTC	16.08.2025 at 17:00 Hrs
		Regular Tender	
2	BMTC/2025-26/IND0210	Procurement of Automotive Batteries	16.08.2025 at 17:00 Hrs
		Corrigendum: The last date & time for submission of following tender in kpp-portal is extended as under.	
3	BMTC/2025-26/IND0185	Procurement of Brake Liners and Clutch facings with rivets.	01.09.2025 at 17:00 Hrs

The above mentioned tender details can be obtained from **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Further, any addendum/corrigendum in respect of change in calendar of events, specification, other tender terms and conditions etc. will be uploaded /published through kpp-portal only.
Note: Interested Bidders need to register in the e-procurement portal. For further information Logon to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**. In case of further assistance, contact e-procurement cell phone No: 080-22230960, 080-22234115, may also contact e-procurement for training on bid submission. Mail to **support@eprochelppdesk.com** for further information required.
Sd/- CONTROLLER OF STORES & PURCHASES
(Tender Inviting Authority)

GULBARGA ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
Office of the Corporate Office, GESCOM, Kalaburagi.
E-Mail:- eecivil.gescom@gmail.com CIN:U04010KA2002SGC030436

No:GESCOM/CEE(O)/EE(C)/AEE(C)/2025-26/30511-540 Date: 29-07-2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (E-procurement only)

On behalf of GESCOM, the undersigned invites tender through e-procurement portal www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in for the following works detailed below.
1) Name of work : Supply and Installation of Video Conferencing System with Interactive Display for GESCOM Corporate Office and Zonal Office at Kalaburagi, Ballari and Circle Office Raichur. 2) Amt put to tender (Rs. in lakhs) : **78.00,** 3) Earnest money deposit (Rs. in lakhs) : 2.00, 4) Time limit for completion of work including monsoon : 3 months, 5) Performance & work qualification : The bidder must be a company registered under the Companies Act, 1956/2013, or a Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) firm registered under the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008.

The tenderer should upload their tender through website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in and also upload the duly completed tenders/ relevant documents within the stipulated date and time mentioned in website only. The intending contractors can obtain the tender details through website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 30-07-2025. The Bidders/ contractors need to register in the e-procurement portal to submit their bids through online, other details can be had from the office of the undersigned.

Calendar of Tendering:
1) Last date & time for clarifications and queries : **05-08-2025 up to 17.00 Hours**, 2) Date & Time of pre-bid meeting : **05-08-2025 up to 11.00 Hours**, 3) Last Date & Time for submission of bid: **11-08-2025 up to 17.00 Hours**, 3) Date & time for opening of Technical bid:**13-08-2025 up to 17.00 Hours**, 4) Date & Time of opening of financial bid : **18-08-2025 up to 17.00 Hours**

Sd/- Chief Engineer Electy,
(Operation), Corporate office, GESCOM, Kalaburagi.

DIPR/Kalaburagi/345/KSMC&A/2025-26

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION (ISRO)
ISRO-TELEMETRY TRACKING & COMMAND NETWORK (ISTRAC)
(CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP)
Plot No.12&13, 3rd Main, 2nd Phase, Peenya Industrial Estate, Bengaluru-58. Ph: 080-28094541/ 4178, Fax: 080-28094180

BRIEF TENDER NOTICE E-TENDER

CORRIGENDUM -I Date: 30.07.2025

On behalf of President of India, **Sealed Item rate E-Tender** is invited online from Contractors of appropriate class for the following work in NIT by **Group Head,** ISTRAC, ISRO, Peenya, Bengaluru-58 (Ph:080-2809 4541, 2809 4178).

Name of work	**Providing Air-Conditioning for Radar Test bed facility for MUST at Meghdooth Building, SCC, ISTRAC, Bengaluru.**
E-Tender Notice	**ISTRAC/CMG/A.C/MAINT/E-Tender-39/ 2025-2026, Dated: 11.07.2025**
Estimated Cost put to tender	**Rs. 11.00 Lakhs**
Tender Document Details	**E-Tenders**
Period of Completion in months reckoned from the 15th day of date of issue of work order	**Two (02) months**
Period during which the tender document can be downloaded	From 12.07.2025 to 26.07.2025 till 16.00 hrs. **Extended up to 06.08.2025 till 16.00 hrs.**
Bid Clarification	From 13.07.2025 to 27.07.2025 till 16.00 hrs. **Extended up to 07.08.2025 till 16.00 hrs.**
Last date & time for reply to Bid Clarifications	28.07.2025 up to 16.00 Hrs. **Extended up to 08.08.2025 up to 16.00 hrs.**
Last date and time for receipt of tenders	29.07.2025 up to 16.00 Hrs. **Extended up to 09.08.2025 up to 16.00 hrs.**
Due date and time of opening of tenders.	30.07.2025 after 11.00 Hrs. **Extended up to 11.08.2025 up to 11.00 hrs.**
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	**Rs. 22,000/-**

Interested tenderers may please refer **Detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT)** for eligibility criteria and other details from website **www.isro.gov.in** and download the tender documents from **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**

Sd/- Group Head, CMG

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
CORRIGENDUM TO E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE NO. SWR-TRIAL-RAILPAD-1 Dated 08.07.2025.

CORRIGENDUM-01
Uploaded approved IRS Specification of Rail Pad T-55-2025 (Revision 1) in IREPS on 14.07.2025

CORRIGENDUM-02

Existing	Modified
Last date of submission of bid for the above tender is **01.08.2025 up to 15.00 Hrs.**	Last date of submission of bid for the above tender is **07.08.2025 up to 15.00 Hrs.**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Deputy Chief Engineer/Track Procurement / Head Quarters, Hubballi
PUB/347/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE No.
Y/E.29/2025-26/32 Dt: 24.07.2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Description of Work	Approx. Value
(Re-tender) Provision of additional four portal lights for freight train examination for Road 4 & 5 at SKLR yard.	Rs.15,35,806/-

Last Date for Submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 14.08.2025**
For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/General
PUB/338/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26 **Mysuru**
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
NOTIFICATION
Bengaluru, 23rd July, 2025

S. O. 3393(E)-. In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (6) of section 20F and clause 7A of section 2 of the Railway Act, 1989 (24 of 1989) the Ministry of Railway (South Western Railway, Construction Organization, Bengaluru Cantonment) hereby authorizes the officers mentioned at column (4) in the table below as 'Competent Authority' and the officers mentioned at column (5) in the table below as 'Arbitrator' to perform the functions as such authority under the said act with effect from date of publication of this notification in the official gazette in respect of Special Railway Projects mentioned at column (2) relating to districts mentioned at column (3) in the table below for Land Acquisition required for the public purpose.

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	District	Competent Authority	Arbitrator
1	Traffic Facilities work of Amritapura – Haliyuru Y-connection to MMEC from Amritapura and Bedara Bommanahalli of Chikjajur - Rayadurg Section.	Chitradurga	Assistant Commissioner, Chitradurga	Regional Commissioner, Bengaluru
2	Construction of ROB and LHS in lieu of LC No. 33 at Hirehalli - Kyatsandra at Ch: 59/800-900	Tumakur	Special Land Acquisition Officer, Tumakur - Rayadurga Railway Project, Tumakur	
3	Construction of ROB and LHS in lieu of LC No. 44 at Tumakur - Mallasandra at Ch: 75/300-400	Tumakur	Special Land Acquisition Officer, Tumakur - Rayadurga Railway Project, Tumakur	

No.W.271/CN/BNC/2025-26/Land SRP/1727
For details log on: https://egazette.gov.in
Pardeep Puri, Chief Engineer-III/Construction
Bengaluru Cantonment
PUB/345/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

GOLDEN PALM COMMUNITY CENTRE
NEAR VANNARPET POST VIVEKNAGAR BANGALORE -560047
(C/O PIONEER CORPS TRG CENTRE, PIN-900493 C/O 56 APO)

ALLOTMENT OF SHOPS AND SERVICES FOR CATERING AND DECORATION/ LIGHTING/ VIDEO/ PHOTOGRAPHY/ MUSIC SYSTEM AT GOLDEN PALM COMMUNITY CENTRE

1. Sealed tenders are invited to identify vendors (Priority for Defence Ex-Servicemen only) for running under mentioned Shop, Services at **Golden Palm Community Centre, Vannarpet, Viveknagar Post Bangalore-560047** (c/o Pioneer Corps Trg Centre, Banaswadi) for the period of one year :-

Ser No	Name of Shop/Services
(a)	Beauty Parlor Shop
(b)	Tea & Snacks Shop
(c)	Services: - (i) Catering Services. (ii) Decoration / Lighting/ Video/ Photography/ Music System Services

2. Application forms including terms and conditions for running of above mentioned shops can be obtained from Account Branch of this establishment at the cost of Rs. 10/- (Rupees Ten only) each, upto five working days prior to last date of submission of application form.
(a) Collection of Application Form - 1030 hrs to 1330 hrs upto 07 Aug 25 (Interested parties can go around the shop(s) on prior permission from authority before date of submission of application from).
(b) Last date of submission of Application form - To reach by 1300 hrs on 07 Aug 25.
3. Application will be enfaced with "the name of shop/services for which being applied for" on the envelop.

The application shall be submitted to
Presiding Officer
Pioneer Corps Training Centre
Near Ayyappa Temple
Banaswadi Military Garrison
Banaswadi, Bangalore-560033

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, SWD-West Zone, BBMP, 9th Floor, Jayanagara Shopping Complex, 4th Block, Jayanagara, Bengaluru - 560011.

No: EE/SWD/WEST/TEND/02/2025-26 **Date: 30-07-2025**

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Two Cover System) (Through GOK KPP Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, SWD - West Zone, BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Contractors registered in BBMP or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES / National Highway or any State Government Organizations for the Construction of works detailed below.
(Standard Tender Document - KW-4)

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Construction of Flood Protection Structures to Storm Water Drain (SWD) including RCC Retaining Walls, Water Retention Structures, Nature Based Solutions Structures/ Bridges and Culverts Under Karnataka Water Security and Resilience Programme (KWSRP) with Externally Funded Project (World Bank) in West Zone. **(Package-1) - Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Crores): 34.50 (Excluding GST), EMD Amount (in Rs.): 1,00,000.00 through KPP Portal and Rs. 33,51,000.00 through BG in Favour of EE (SWD-West Zone)**

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender Documents can be downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 31-07-2025. 2)** Date of Pre Bid Meeting **on 18-08-2025 at 16.00 Hours in the Office of the Chief Engineer, Storm Water Drain, BBMP, 9th Floor, Jayanagara Shopping Complex, 4th Block, Jayanagara, Bengaluru - 560011. 3)** Last Date for Receipt of Tenders is **01-09-2025 upto 17.30 Hours. 4)** Date of Opening of Technical Bid is **02-09-2025 at 17.30 Hours or next working day. 5)** Date of Opening of Financial Bid: **Will be intimated to Technically Qualified Contractor Successful Bidder in Kpp Portal.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Storm Water Drain - West Zone, BBMP.

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER

DRM (TRD & GSU) NWR Ajmer on behalf of The President of India invites E - Tenders for the following work up to 15.00 Hrs. on the mentioned date. **1. Tender No.:** DRM-TRD-06-2025-26, **Name of work:** Annual Maintenance Contract of Cummins Make Engine of 01 Nos. 8-Wheeler Tower Wagons over Ajmer Division for a Period of 03 Years, **Approximate cost of work:** Rs. 59,51,512.00, **Bid Security:** Rs. 1,19,000/-, **Date & Time of closing E-Tender:** 18.08.2025 at 15.00 Hrs., **Date & Time of opening E-Tender:** 18.08.2025 at 15.30 Hrs., **2. Tender No.:** DRM-TRD-07-2025-26, **Name of work:** TRD work in connection with the provision of additional 02 passenger platform lines by converting existing goods shed at Ranapratap Nagar, **Approximate cost of work:** Rs. 3,53,94,532.00, **Bid Security:** Rs. 3,27,000/-, **Date & Time of closing E-Tender:** 18.08.2025 at 15.00 Hrs., **Date & Time of opening E-Tender:** 18.08.2025 at 15.30 Hrs. The details of above E-tenders are available on website www.ireps.gov.in
930-PS/25
Follow us at /NWRailways NWRailways_

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that our client **Smt.Muniyallamma, W/o Sri.Thamaiah,** residing at No.14, Thubarahalli, Opp: Yellamma Temple, Varthur Main Road, Bangalore-560066, represents that the Sale deed dated 29.04.2004, registered as Document No.2110/2004-05, in the office of sub registrar Bangalore South Taluk, executed by **Smt.Muniyallamma, G.Thammaiah, G.Krishnappa and Harish** to and in favour of **Sri.Thyagaraju** in respect to the Schedule Property mentioned hereunder is lost/misplace and not traceable.
If anybody other than the aforesaid Smt. Muniyallamma has any claim, right, title and interest on the **SCHEDULE PROPERTY** by virtue of being in possession or any Rights they should file their claim with documentary proof within **Seven days** from the date of issuance of this Public Notice in our office, at the address mentioned below, failing which, it will be taken for granted that nobody has any manner of right, title, interest or claim over the **SCHEDULE PROPERTY** other than the said Smt. Muniyallamma.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of Property bearing **Gramathana Katha No.169/1** Situated at **Thubarahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk,** now comes Under the limits of BBMP, measuring East to West **14 feet** and North to South **10 feet,** together with house Constructed thereon and is bounded on the:
East by : School & M.Nagaraju House;
West by : Shetu House;
North by : Varthur Road;
South by : Thammaiah House;

Shruthi.S, Advocate
Unit No.101, 1st Floor, No.663, at 3rd Cross, Opp: to Karnataka Bank, K.R.Puram, Bangalore-560036

KARNATAKA RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Grameenabhivriddhi Bhavana, 4th & 5th Floor, Ananda Rao Circle, Bengaluru - 560 009.

No: KRIDL/WKS/STL/TND/2025-26 Date:28.07.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The applications are invited for the supply of TMT Steel Bars as per IS 1786 FE 550 to KRIDL (KLAC) Sub divisions throughout Karnataka from the Manufacturers/Primary Manufacturers with turnover stipulated in table below, per annum in last 3 financial years. The firm shall have satisfactory completion of similar supplies of 1000 MT in the last three financial years to the Government Departments/Semi-Government Departments/Public Sector undertakings and Public & Private Firms/Companies. Interested manufacturers can participate in the tender and they can view, download and apply only through the E-Governance Secretariat **New website:www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in Contact:** +91-9240214000, +91 9240214001, + 91 80 68948777, +91 80 46010000.

S. N	Particulars of Tender	Qty in M.T	Aprx. Amount put to Tender in Rs. lakhs	EMD Amount in Rs. Lakhs	Required Turnover Per Annum of Firm Rs.in Lakhs
1	Tender Part-I Bengaluru & BBMP Zone	501	290.57	4.36	930.00
2	Tender Part-II Mysuru Zone	619	356.54	5.35	1141.00
3	Tender Part-III Central (Chitradurga) Zone	780	448.50	6.73	1435.00
4	Tender Part-IV Belagavi Zone	715	418.27	6.27	1338.00
5	Tender Part-V Kalaburagi Zone	385	226.76	3.40	726.00

*** One firm is eligible to participate in maximum of 3 parts of tender only, out of 5 parts mentioned in the above table".**
Period of supply three months from the date of Supply order.
• Last date and time for enquiry is **25.08.2025 up to 14.00 hrs.**
• Last date and time for receipt of tender **25.08.2025 up to 15.00 hrs.**
• Date of Opening of Technical Bid is on **28.08.2025 at 15.00 hrs.**
• Date of Opening of Financial Bid is on **30.08.2025 at 15.00 hrs.**
For further details please contact:
Chief Engineer (North)
KARNATAKA RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMET LTD,Bengaluru-09.
Phone: 080-28015605, Email: ddworkskridl@gmail.com
For information, please log on to: www.kridl.org.in
Sd/- Chief Engineer (North)

Bank of Baroda
Channapatna Branch
Regional Office Mandya, 1st Floor, Makam Towers 2nd Main, Vivekananda Road, Ashoknagar, Mandya -571401, Tel: 91(8232)-220577. www.bankofbaroda.in

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property) (See- Rule 8(1))

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the **Bank of Baroda Channapatna Branch** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notice dated **08.05.2025** calling upon the borrowers **(1) M/s Kabira Handicrafts represented by its Proprietor Mr. Mr Syed Hafeez** S/o Syed Mahamood and **(2) Guarantor Mr. Shakeebulla Khan** S/o Mohammed Saleemulla Khan., to repay the amount mentioned in the notice **Rs. 23,99,562.38 (Rupees Twenty Three Lakhs Ninety Nine Thousand Five Hundred and Sixty Two and paise Thirty Eight Only)** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub section (4) of Section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 on this **28th day of July of the year 2025.**
The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **Bank of Baroda** for an amount of **Rs. 23,99,562.38/- (Rupees Twenty Three Lakhs Ninety Nine Thousand Five Hundred and Sixty Two and paise Thirty Eight Only)** and interest thereon.
The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable Property

S.No.1 : Document no and date: 1012/21-22, 28-06-2021, Survey/Katha/ House/Site No.: Municipal Khatha No.790/1, Municipal Door No.735/627/628, Property No.24-1-511-28A/1, Extent area (in meters) East to West 2.59, North to South 7.46 total 19.34, Location/ Sub District/District/Village/Municipality : 28A, 2nd cross, Block No.1, Ward No.24, Syed Siraj Mohalla, Channapatna Town, Ramanagara District. Boundaries: North : 24-1-511-Road, South : C & B Schedule Property, East : 24-1-511-28B, West : A Schedule property.
S.No.2 : Document no and date: 1012/21-22 28-06-2021, Survey/Katha/ House/Site No.: Municipal Khatha No.790/2, Municipal Door No.735/627/628, Property No.24-1-511-28A/3, Location/ Sub District/District/Village/Municipality 28A, 2nd cross, Block No.1, Ward No.24, Syed Siraj Mohalla, Channapatna Town, Ramanagara District. Boundaries: North : B & C Schedule Property, South : 24-1-507-5 & C Schedule property, East : 24-1-511-28B, West : C Schedule and property of Saheba Bibi.

Date : 28.07.2025 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place : Channatna. **Bank of Baroda**

Bescom to discontinue ATP machines for 2nd time

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Any Time Payment (ATP) machines, which were installed in Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (Bescom) sub-division offices for payment of electricity bills will be discontinued from August 1.

The kiosks were shut down in 2015 after other modes of payment kicked in. However, following public demand, ATP machines were reopened in 2017 with the number of kiosks being increased from 117 to 217.

Now, there are several ways to pay electricity bills, along with the Bescom website and the Bescom Mithra app. The bill payments can also be made using Spot Billing Devices, Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS), NEFT, and ECS (Electronic Clearing Service) and UPI platforms.

Customers can continue to pay their electricity bills through cash payment counters at Bescom sub-divisional offices, BangaloreOne, KarnatakaOne centres within Bescom's jurisdiction, and online payment methods such as the Bescom website and the Bescom Mithra app, said Bescom officials.

The contract period of ATP machines had come to an end and with the mode of payment not being widely used, it did not make fiscal sense to continue them, say officials.

NMC grants conditional renewal, recognition to 22 government medical colleges

The commission had imposed a penalty in the range of ₹2 lakh to ₹15 lakh on 16 government medical colleges in 2024-25 for failing to meet the required norms

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

The National Medical Commission (NMC) has granted conditional renewal and recognition to 22 government medical colleges in Karnataka for the academic year 2025-26, which had earlier been issued show-cause notices for not meeting the parameters, including infrastructure and faculty requirements.

The colleges have been given four months to comply, but no penalty has been imposed on any of them this year. They have been warned that admissions will be restricted for the next academic year if the system is not rectified.

In the year 2024-25, the NMC had imposed a penalty in the range of ₹2 lakh to ₹15 lakh on 16 government medical colleges, which had failed to meet the required norms.

Periodic verification

The NMC periodically asks all medical colleges having a valid letter of permission (LoP) for medical course admissions to submit and upload all details and documents on its portal as part of their annual declaration.

This is the first time that such notices have been issued to all government medical colleges, including BMCRI, which has the best infrastructure and is most sought after by students. FILE PHOTO

The NMC periodically asks all medical colleges having a valid LoP for medical course admissions to submit and upload all details and documents on its portal as part of their annual declaration

Through a public notice on April 25, the commission had also asked colleges to furnish information on minor operation theatres and major operation theatres.

There are 22 government medical colleges functioning in the State, and these colleges have failed to meet standard parameters, including infrastructure and faculty recruitment. Therefore, the NMC had served show-cause notices on all theses colleges.

This is the first time that such notices have been issued to all government medical colleges, including Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute (BMCRI), which has the best infrastructure and is most sought after by students.

Most of the colleges had replied to the notices with documents. Not satisfied with this, the NMC did not approve the enhancement of 800 medical seats submitted by the Medical Education Department this year. In addition, it did not sanction new colleges for the State.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, B.L. Sujatha Rathod, director, Directorate of Medical Education, said, "This year, we have granted conditional renewal and recognition to courses in government medical colleges in the State. We have given a deadline of four months to fulfil the parameters. However, we have not imposed any penalty. If they do not fulfil the norms within the prescribed time frame, we can impose a penalty," she said.

Submitted proposal

"All government medical colleges have good infrastructure and facilities. However, 30% of the faculty posts in undergraduate (UG) medical courses and 60% in postgraduate (PG) medical courses are vacant. The Department of Medical Education has already submitted a proposal to the Finance Department for filling these posts. But the government has restricted all recruitments till the Justice Nagamohan Das Committee on internal reservation submits its report to the government. Therefore, action will be taken to fill the faculty posts as soon as the internal reservation report is submitted," Ms. Rathod added.

Cryptocurrency worth over ₹300 crore stolen from city-based firm; employee held

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In what may be one of the biggest cyber frauds reported in Karnataka, a Bengaluru-based cryptocurrency exchange firm has reported that its wallets were hacked into and cryptocurrency worth ₹378.9 crore was stolen. Police have arrested an employee of the firm on suspicion that he was involved in the fraud.

Bellandur-based Neblio Technologies Pvt. Ltd. was hit by a hack on July 19. At 2.45 a.m., fraudsters hacked into the company's cryptocurrency wallet and transferred 1 USDT (Tether) to an anonymous wallet. Hours later, at 9.40 a.m., the hacker again transferred cryptocurrency worth $44 million (₹378.9 crore) to an unknown wallet and from there transferred it to several other wallets. The company has listed the addresses of these wallets in their complaint to the city police. Following this, an internal cybersecurity audit was carried out, and they found that the laptop of one of the employees, Rahul Agarwal, was hacked, the complaint said.

The accused was questioned, and he reportedly confessed to having taken up a part-time IT job and earned ₹15 lakh over the past year, and that he has been using the company's laptop for the part-time job, in violation of norms laid down by the company.

The complainant has raised suspicion that the said employee may have colluded with cyber fraudsters and been part of the hack and swindling of cryptocurrencies from the firm's wallets. A case has been registered against the employee.

Police have not ruled out that cyber fraudsters lured the employee with a lucrative part-time job, forcing him to work on his office laptop and misusing that to hack into the company's servers, without the knowledge of the employee as well.

Meanwhile, Whitefield Cybercrime police said that there was no way to freeze cryptocurrencies in a virtual wallet and they could attempt recovering the money only when it is converted into real currency.

Two minors killed in road accident

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Two minors were killed and their father was injured when a speeding private passenger carrier vehicle rammed the scooter they were travelling, on Tuesday in Devanahalli.

The deceased have been identified as Nandan, 13, and his sister Dhanushri, 12,, and the injured have been identified as Muniraju, the father of the minors. The children , picked up by their father, Muniraju, were returning home after school around 4.30 p.m.,when the accident occurred. The police said that the duo was not wearing helmets.

The accident took place at Sulibele Road in Devanahalli. The driver of the tempo traveller, who was allegedly riding rashly and negligently, knocked down the scooter. The Devanahalli police registered a case against the driver for causing death due to negligence and rash and negligent driving.

Indian Overseas Bank
Information Technology Department
www.iob.in Central Office: 763, ANNA SALAI, CHENNAI-600002

Indian Overseas bank (IOB) invites bids for the following:

GOVERNMENT E-MARKET PORTAL - PROCUREMENT OF INTERNET LEASED LINE FOR BANK'S DATA CENTERS
BID NO: GEM/2025/B/6493286 DATED 25.07.2025

GOVERNMENT E-MARKET PORTAL - ENTERPRISE SUBSCRIPTION AGREEMENT FOR UPGRADATION OF M/S.VMWARE (BROADCOM) PRODUCTS
BID NO: GEM/2025/B/6498406 DATED 28.07.2025

GOVERNMENT E-MARKET PORTAL - SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, IMPLEMENTATION AND MAINTENANCE OF SOFTWARE-DEFINED WAN (SD-WAN) EDGE DEVICES FROM OEM M/S. LAVELLE
BID NO: GEM/2025/B/6505515 DATED 28.07.2025

The Above GEM Tender document is also available and can be downloaded from the following websites **www.iob.in** & **www.gem.gov.in** For Tender details and future amendments, if any, keep referring to the following website **www.gem.gov.in**

Office of the Industries Commissioner and Director of Industries and Commerce / Managing Director, Bureau for Facilitating MSMEs of Tamil Nadu (FaMeTN), MSME Department, Government of Tamil Nadu
SIDCO Corporate Office Building, Thiru vi Ka Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600 032

Recruitment to the posts of **Research Officer, Trade and Commerce Specialist and Associate (BFO) for the O/o FaMeTN, Chennai - 600 032 & Business Facilitation Officer in the districts of Coimbatore, Trichy, Madurai and Hosur for the O/o IC&DIC.**

Sl. No.	Authority and Official Website	Recruitment Details
1.	Managing Director, FaMeTN (https://FaMeTN.com)	Detailed notification including eligibility criteria such as qualifications, age limit, experience, job description and skill requirements is available on FaMeTN's official website. Interested candidates are advised to submit their applications online through the official website of FaMeTN. After the initial screening and evaluation, shortlisted candidates will be called for a physical interview. The date, time and venue of the interview will be announced shortly. Further notifications and communication will be published only on the official website. Candidates are advised to regularly check the website for updates.

DIPR/858/DISPLAY/2025 — Managing Director, FaMeTN, MSME Department, Guindy, Chennai - 600 032.

CAUVERY NEERAVARI NIGAMA NIYAMITHA
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Office of the Executive Engineer, VC Division, Mandya-571401. Mandya Dist Ph: 08232-225046

SHORT TENDER NOTIFICATION NO-06/2025-26
Dated : 24.07.2025
Two cover System
Through e-procurement

This office's tender Notification No.06/2025-26, Dated: 24.07.2025 for a total No of 03 works (Minimum amount-95.00 lakhs Maximum amount Rs. 99.80 lakhs). Item wise rate tender Is Invited from eligible KPWD Class-III & Above contractors. Tender queries and clarification as per e-portal. E.M.D should be paid through E-payment. Last date of submission of tenders through on-line : As per e-Portal, Date of opening of tender As per e-portal. For additional Information log on to http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in and contact on official Land-line number 08232-225046 During office hours

Sd/-Executive Engineer, Cauvery Neeravari Nigama Ltd VC Division, Mandya.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಜ/ಸನಿ–ಮಂ/ಕೆವಿಸ್ ಎಂಸಿ&ಎ/330/2025–26

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No: B31/SEE(IT)/EE(IT-1)/56108/2025-26 Date: 30.07.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPP Portal Only)

KPTCL invites bid against **Enquiry No: KPTCL/B31/SEE(IT)/EE(IT-1)/66247/3/2025-26** for **"Implementation of Monitoring system for Transmission Lines".**

The bids will be received through e-procurement mode only. The detailed notification regarding the enquiry can be obtained by logging onto KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink "E Procurement KPTCL" or to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **31-07-2025, 5.00 PM**. Other details can be obtained from the office of the under signed.

Sd/- **Chief General Manager (Tech), Corporate Office, KPTCL, 2nd Floor, Kaveri Bhavan, Bengaluru-560 009.**

ANDHRA PRADESH INDUSTRIAL INFRASTRUCTURE CORPORATION LTD (APIIC)
(A Government of Andhra Pradesh Undertaking)
APIIC Towers, 9th & 10th Floors, Plot No-1, IT Park, Mangalagiri, Guntur(Dist), AP-522503

'REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS'
SELECTION OF DEVELOPERS FOR DEVELOPMENT, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF LARGE INDUSTRIAL PARKS ON PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP (PPP) BASIS AT 15 LOCATIONS IN ANDHRA PRADESH

Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (APIIC) intends to select Developers for the Development, Operation and Maintenance of Large Industrial Parks (ranging from **100 to 500 acre**) on a **Public-Private Partnership (PPP)** basis at **15 (fifteen) locations** across Andhra Pradesh.

APIIC will provide encumbrance-free land to the Selected Developers and ensure external infrastructure upto the project boundary. The Selected Developers will be responsible for comprehensive development, operation and maintenance of the Large Industrial Parks.

Interested Bidders are encouraged to attend the Pre-Bid Meetings as per the schedule mentioned in the respective Request for Proposal (RFP) documents. A separate RFP is issued for each location and can be downloaded from **www.apeprocurement.gov.in** or **https://apiic.in/downloads-tenders/.** Bidders must submit their proposals in the prescribed format **on or before the Proposal Due Date** specified in the RFP document. **Sd/- Vice Chairman & Managing Director, APIIC Ltd.**

For inquiries and clarifications related to the RFP, please reach out to ce-south@apiic.in

University Of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore
NAAC A+ Accredited
Estate Office, Naik Bhavan, GKVK, Bengaluru-560 065.
No. EO/TN/6/2025-26 Dated: 25-07-2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Kpp Portal only)

The University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore has invited Tender in the prescribed form as per Standard Tender Document KW1, from the registered KPWD/PWD/Contractors & Reputed firms for the works Sl.No.1 to 4. The details of the notification, tender document, specifications are available in the website: www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in The cost of tender document is as per KPP Portal. The EMD has to be paid in the KPP Portal using KPP payment modes.

The works are under Two Cover System. The details for two cover system is to be uploaded as per Standard Tender document.

The Blank Tender documents can be down loaded from **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Last date and time for uploading is **08.08.2025 upto 4:00 p.m.** The **Technical Bid** will be opened on **11.08.2025 at 10:30 a.m.** The **Financial Bid** will be opened on **13.08.2025 at 10:30 a.m.** For more details pleasure contact e-portal help desk at support@eprochelpdesk.com or **8046010000/8068948777/9240214000/9240214001** on working days and this office during working hour, **Phone: 080-23332765.**

Sd/-
ESTATE OFFICER

DIPR/CP/RO2107/AAPL/2025-26

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD
(Regd Office PSEB Head Office, The Mall Patiala)
Corporate Identification Number (CIN): U40109PB2010SGC033813 Web site: www.pspcl.in
(Contact Number 9646118754)

Tender Enquiry No. 339/HPs/EDII/RSD-149 Dated: 28.07.2025
Dy.CE/ Hydel Projects, PSPCL, Shed A-3, Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala Invites E-Tender for Design, Manufacturing, Supply, Testing and Commissioning of 5 no. HP Compressors (Bare Head) at RSD, Shahpurkandi.
For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 06.08.2025 onwards.
NOTE: Corrigendum and Addendum, if any will be published online at **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in**

C 540/25 1079/12/2025-26/1776

Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society, Bangalore
(A Government of Karnataka Institutions)
No.8, MSB-1, 6th & 7th Floor, Cunningham Road, Bengaluru – 560052.

KREIS/INFR/OTH/171/2025-ADMN/E-234141 Dated: 30.07.2025

TENDER NOTIICATION (Through E-Tendering Only)

Tenders have been invited on 30.07.2025 for Supply of Shoe Socks, Tie & Belt for Bangalore, Belgavi, Kalburgi & Mysore Divisions Residential Schools functioning under the Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society across Karnataka. Through e-Portal vide Indent No: KREIS/2025-26/IND0087, KREIS/2025-26/IND0088, KREIS/2025-26/IND0089 and KREIS/2025-26/IND0090 and the last date for receipt of tenders is 14.08.2025. The details may be viewed in the http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. website.

Sd/- Joint Director (Admin) and Tender Inviting Authority KREIS, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/ 2111 /AKAR/2025-26

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Bommanahalli Project Division, HSR Layout, BDA Complex, Bengaluru - 560102.

No: BBMP/EE/BPD/Tend-12/2025-26 Date: 29-07-2025

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Single Cover System) (Through https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only)

The Executive Engineer, Bommanahalli Project Division, HSR Layout, BBMP Bengaluru-102, invites tender from eligible Contractors registered in Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, or equivalent Registration with / KPWD / CPWD / BWSSB / Railways / MES/ National Highway or any state Government Organizations for the Construction of works detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Repair Maintenance of Crematorium and Burial Ground in Bengaluru South Constituency (2nd call). Category: **Cat-1.** Estimated Amount (Rs in Lakhs): **Rs. 37.00 Lakhs.** EMD Amount: **Rs.37,000/-.** Tender processing fee (Rupees): **As per KPPP portal.** Period of completion (Including Monsoon): **180 Days.**

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender Documents can be Downloaded from Through website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** from **04-08-2025. 2)** Last date submission of tender documents on or before **11-08-2025. at 16.00 hours. 3)** Tender will be opened on the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** in the office of the Executive Engineer, Bommanahalli Project division on **12-08-2025 at 16.30 Hours onwards.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Bommanahalli Project Division, BBMP.

OFFICE OF ASSISTANT CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS
MADHUGIRI SUB DIVISION (TERRITORIAL)
DIVISION SIRA ROAD, MADHUGIRI - 572132
Email: acfmadhugiri@gmail.com

Letter No: ACF/MSD/CIVIL/RE-E-TENDER/CR-03/2025-26 Dated: 28-07-2025

E-Tender Notification

E-Tender is invited by the Forest Department, Tumkur Territorial Division Madhugiri Sub-Division, pertaining to Madhugiri and Koratagere range under CEPMIZ (KMERC) Scheme Providing Construction of uncoursed rubble stone masonry wall, Construction of Gully checks and Construction of New Watch Tower for the year 2025-26. The Bidder needs to be registered as Civil Contractor during 2025-26 for civil works can participate for the following works..

Total No of Works	**07**
Highest Value of the Work	**Rs 67,15,500/-**
Highest Value EMD	**Rs 1,34,310/-**
Lowest Value of the Work	**Rs 7,39,310/-**
Lowest Value EMD	**Rs 9,460/-**

Bid Submission Closing Date & Time : **11-08-2025 at 3:00 PM**
Technical Bid Opening Date : **12-08-2025 at 3:00 PM**
Price Bid Opening Date : **13-08-2025 at 3:00 PM**
Last date for Bid Enquiry : **05-08-2025 at 3:00 PM**

For more information about this tender may contact our office at office timings and more details on **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Assistant Conservator of Forests,
DIPR/TUM/RO-83/25-26/Oysters Madhugiri Sub Division, Madhugiri.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, SWD-Bommanahalli Zone, BBMP 9th Floor Shopping Complex, Jayanagara 4th Block, Bengaluru - 560 011.
No: EE/SWD/BMZ/TEND/04/2025-26 Date:30.07.2025

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Two Cover System)

(Through **GOK** KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** only)
The Executive Engineer SWD-Bommanahalli Zone, BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible contractors registered in Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike or equivalent registration with CPWD/KPWD/Railways/MES/National Highway or any State Government Organizations for the construction of works detailed in the table below.

Sl No.	Name of the work
1.	Construction of Flood Protection Structures to Storm Water Drain including RCC Retaining walls, Water retention Structures, Nature Based Solutions Structures, Culverts and Bridges Under Karnataka Water Security and Resilience Program (KWSRP) With Externally Funded Project (World Bank) in Bommanahalli Zone Package-01 (31 Works) Approx. Value of Work: ₹.163.504 Crores, (Excluding GST) EMD Amount: ₹.1,00,000.00 through KPP portal and ₹.1,62,50,393.00 through BG in favour of EE-SWD-Bommanahalli Zone

Calendar of Events : (1) Tender Documents may be downloaded from the KPP portal of GOK from **31.07.2025**. (2) Pre-Bid Meeting is on **18.08.2025** at **4:00**pm at Office of the Chief Engineer, Storm Water Drain, BBMP, 9th floor, Jayanagara Shopping Complex, 4th Block, Jayanagara, Bengaluru-560011. (2) Last Date for receipt of Tenders is on **01.09.2025** up to **5:30**pm. (3) Date of Opening of the bid is on **02.09.2025** by **5:30**pm or next working day. (4) Date of Opening of the financial bid will be intimated to technically qualified contractor successful bidder in KPP portal.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Storm Water Drain, Bommanahalli Zone

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRP Act).
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Rahul Gandhi to protest against 'votes theft' in Bengaluru on August 5

Congress to submit representation to Election Commission officials in the city on the alleged manipulation by BJP; Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has endorsed the MP's allegation

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Rahul Gandhi

Amid the row over the revision of electoral rolls in Bihar, Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, who recently claimed that the Congress had figured out the *modus operandi* of "votes theft" by studying a Lok Sabha constituency in Karnataka, will take part in a protest in Bengaluru on August 5 and submit a representation to Election Commission officials here.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who endorsed the views of Mr. Gandhi, has alleged that the party's setback in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections in Karnataka was owing to the "manipulation by the BJP through its misuse of the Election Commission". The party won nine of the 28 Lok Sabha seats in the State.

The modus operandi

Mr. Gandhi alleged that elections were being "stolen" in India and claimed that his party had figured out the *modus operandi* of the "votes theft" by studying a Lok Sabha constituency in Karnataka.

Speaking to reporters here, KPCC chief and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and Home Minister G. Parameshwara said Mr. Gandhi had raised his voice against irregularities in elections, and he would visit Bengaluru to submit a representation to Election Commission officials on August 5. The Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee would be organising a protest rally, following which a memorandum would be submitted to Election Commission officials.

Mr. Shivakumar and Mr. Siddaramaiah are finalising the plan. As per the tentative plan, Mr. Gandhi is likely to address party workers at Freedom Park, following which he is likely to meet election officials and submit a memorandum, Dr. Parameshwara said.

'Bhayankar chori'

Mr. Gandhi said, "In Karnataka, we have found out 'bhayankar chori' (massive theft). I will show it in black and white to you and the Election Commission. I will show in black and white how the 'chori' is done and from where. We have it in black and white in Karnataka."

Mr. Shivakumar has also endorsed Mr. Gandhi's allegation and said he had conducted an investigation regarding the Bengaluru Rural Lok Sabha constituency, and a lot of irregularities had been done.

BJP terms it a 'drama'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

R. Ashok

Questioning the timing and logic of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's plan to hold a protest in Bengaluru alleging electoral malpractices in the previous Lok Sabha elections, the Opposition BJP has described it as a "drama" being used as a shield from "defeat that is looming large in the Bihar Assembly elections". It has also challenged him to approach the court if he has any evidence to prove his allegations.

"With the defeat looming in Bihar, you're rushing to Bengaluru to create a smokescreen, seeking anticipatory bail for your own leadership failures and your party's growing irrelevance," Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly R. Ashok said in a social media post.

He said that "after sinking the Congress ship in three consecutive Lok Sabha elections, failing even to cross the 100-seat mark, and suffering humiliating defeats in State after State", Mr. Gandhi was now planning a dramatic march in Karnataka. He said it was "not to defend democracy but to defend his dying relevance". He wondered why he kept quiet about the alleged poll malpractices for more than a year and was rising them just ahead of the Bihar Assembly elections.

Speaking to mediapersons in Bengaluru, BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra challenged Congress leaders to approach the court if they had any evidence to prove that the BJP had won the Bengaluru North Lok Sabha seat through manipulation by misusing the Election Commission. "If the BJP had really misused the Election Commission, there would be no reason for us to be in the Opposition in Karnataka," he said.

Jobs on compassionate grounds: High Court issues guidelines to State govt.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government should take proactive steps to assist the family members of a deceased employee to file an application for appointment to government services on compassionate grounds, particularly when the application is filed by a widow or an illiterate family member, the High Court of Karnataka has said.

A Division Bench, comprising Justice Mohammad Nawaz and Justice K.S. Hemalekha, passed the order while issuing guidelines to the government on how to handle applications for compassionate appointments.

The Bench issued the directions on noticing that the Revenue Department had failed to either respond or act on an application filed by the widow of a government employee seeking compassionate appointment for one of her sons, and later had rejected an application filed by one of the sons, Mahaboob Patel of Kalaburagi, on the ground of delay in applying.

While directing the government to frame a uniform standard operating procedure (SOP) for all the departments on handling the applications for compassionate appointments, the Bench said officials should be trained to ensure that there are no procedural lapses in processing the applications for compassionate appointments.

"Compassionate appointment matters being a welfare measure designed to provide immediate financial relief to bereaved families, the State bears a high duty of procedural fairness. When a timely application is made, especially by an illiterate or a widow, the authorities must act strictly, transparently, and assistively. Failure to do so can deny the rightful dependents their opportunity," the Bench observed.

30-day deadline

Every application for a compassionate appointment, whether in the prescribed format or not, must be acknowledged in writing by the authorities concerned within 30 days, the Bench said.

The acknowledgement, the Bench said, should contain clear communication about the status of the application (incomplete or complete), any defects in format/documentation, the rights of other dependents to apply, and the applicable limitation period.

In cases where the applicant is a widow, illiterate or otherwise, the department concerned must take proactive steps to assist them in filing the application in the proper format and guide them regarding the steps to be followed by the other dependents to apply, the Bench made it clear.

The Bench also directed that all the applications must be decided within a maximum period of 90 days from the date of receipt of the application.

MLAs give their wish list to CM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, along with Ministers, hearing the grievances of MLAs from Kalyana Karnataka and Kittur Karnataka regions, in Bengaluru on Wednesday.

To address dissatisfaction within the Congress and to monitor development works at the constituency level, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah held meetings with Congress MLAs and Ministers from the Kalyana Karnataka and Kittur Karnataka regions on Wednesday.

The meetings followed dissatisfaction among party legislators over the slow pace of development in their constituencies owing to inadequate funds.

The meetings would help the Chief Minister gain knowledge about overall development works in the State and any shortcomings of governance, ahead the Monsoon Session of the State legislature. In the presence of Ministers, the Chief Minister held face-to-face meetings with MLAs and asked about their grievances. MLAs of Ballari, Vijayanagara, Koppal, Raichur, Yadgir, Kalaburagi, Bidar, Belagavi, Hubballi-Dharwad, and Uttara Kannada districts provided their wish list to Mr. Siddaramaiah, according to sources in the party.

KPCC chief and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has not been involved in these meetings, a move that has triggered speculation about growing differences between the two leaders.

However, Mr. Shivakumar played it down and claimed that he had no issue with Mr. Siddaramaiah holding meetings with legislators.

In LS, Sudhakar alleges State is mismanaging urea supply; Minister accuses him of lying

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Agriculture Minister N. Cheluvarayaswamy and BJP MP K. Sudhakar

The political tussle over urea shortage figured in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday, with BJP member K. Sudhakar raising the issue and accusing the Karnataka government of mismanaging the available stock. This triggered a stern response from Karnataka Agriculture Minister N. Cheluvarayaswamy, who termed the BJP MP's claims of the Centre supplying adequate quantum of urea as an "utter lie".

Raising the issue of urea shortage in Karnataka during the Zero Hour in the Lok Sabha, Dr. Sudhakar claimed that the Centre had supplied 8,13,000 tonnes of urea to Karnataka despite global conflicts. But, he alleged that the Karnataka government, "which is mired in corruption", had meted out injustice to farmers by failing to effectively distribute it.

He appealed to the Centre to intervene and direct the Karnataka Chief Secretary to effectively distribute the urea stock among farmers.

'Lying through teeth'

Responding sharply to this, Mr. Cheluvarayaswamy alleged that the MP was "lying through his teeth". The Minister reiterated that though the Centre had allocated 6.82 lakh tonnes of urea to the State from April to July, it had actually supplied only 5.46 lakh tonnes. The State had tried to mitigate the shortage situation with the help of its opening stocks from the previous season that amounted to 3,46,498.74 tonnes, he explained.

Squarely blaming the Centre's "short supply" for the present problem in the State, the Minister maintained that Dr. Sudhakar should have urged the Centre to release the remaining quantum of 1,36,109 tonnes of urea instead of accusing the State of mismanaging the supply, if he was really concerned about farmers.

Pointing out that already the Chief Minister had brought the issue to the notice of the Centre by writing to the Union Agriculture Minister, Mr. Cheluvarayaswamy said he had sought an appointment with the Union Fertilisers Minister to seek the supply of remaining quantum of urea stock.

Presently, the State is trying to manage the shortage situation by supplying additional stocks from different areas to the districts which have more demand.

Nayana Motamma shares dais with Pramod Mutalik at Mudigere, speech goes viral

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA

The speech of Nayana Motamma, Mudigere MLA, at a programme organised by the Hindu Maha Ganapati Seva Samiti at Mudigere on Tuesday has gone viral on social media platforms, and evoked a wide range of reactions in the State.

Addressing the gathering, the Congress MLA said she was participating in the programme as a responsible working president of the organising committee. "I am attending this programme wearing a saffron shawl. There may be many questions and curiosity among people about my participation. I am here for Lord Ganapati, and the religion (dharma) I belong to, and the party comes next," she said.

She stressed that there should not be any doubt among the people about whether she would join the BJP, the SDPI or the BSP. "Let's wait for three years to find the answer to that question," she said.

The MLA maintained that she had always worshipped Lord Ganesha, and watched the Ganesha festival celebrations in Mudigere as a child, and later in Maharashtra.

Ms. Nayana Motamma, a first-time MLA, shared the dais with Pramod Mutalik, founder of Sri Rama Sene, and M.K. Pranesh, Deputy Chairperson of the Karnataka Legislative Council, at a ceremony to unveil the logo of the samiti.

The video clip of her speech has gone viral on social media platforms. Many people have questioned her for sharing a public platform with Mr. Mutalik.

MLA's clarification

On Wednesday, Ms. Nayana Motamma took to social media platforms to say that she had clarity on her choices, adding that she would not fit into any box that people wished to place her in.

Labourer killed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 33-year-old labourer was hammered to death during a fight with his friend while they were drunk, at an under-construction house at Tarabanahalli in Varthur on Tuesday, the police said. The deceased, Jitendra Pandey, a native of Bihar, had come to Bengaluru a week ago. The police are looking for the accused, Seetharam Pandey, who is on the run.

Verdict in Prajwal case tomorrow

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Special Court of Sessions for criminal cases against former and present MPs and MLAs, which was expected to pronounce the verdict in a rape case against Prajwal Revanna, former Hassan MP, on Wednesday, put it off till Friday as the judge sought clarification on certain matters and asked for a document pertaining to the case.

The trial in the case, where a 48-year-old woman who was working as a help at the family's farmhouse in Hassan was allegedly raped twice and the act recorded by the accused on his mobile phone, concluded on July 18.

GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH,
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
Disaster Management Cell-HPSDMA,
Program Management Unit
Himachal Pradesh Disaster Risk Reduction and Preparedness (HP DRRP) Program
H.P. Secretariat, Shimla,
Phone:- 0177 2880320/ E-mail:- sdma-hp[at]nic[dot]in
RFP Number: Rev. (DMC) (F) 11-50/2023 DRRP (AFD-III) PFM
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL(S)
FOR HIRING OF CONSULTING FIRM(S)

Request for Proposals (RFPs) are invited for hiring services for Public Financial Management (PFM) Systems, Independent Verification Agency (IVA), and Gender Studies under the HP Disaster Risk Reduction & Preparedness (HP DRRP) Program of the Disaster Management Cell (Rev-DM), Hmachal Pradesh. Detailed TOR are available at **https://hptenders.gov.in.** Interested parties may submit their applications online latest by 30th August for PFM, 1st September for IVA, and 2nd September 2025 for Gender Studies.

The undersigned reserves the right to reject any/ all the applications without assigning any reason thereof.

-sd/-
Nishant Thakur (HPAS)
Program Director
HPDRRP Program

HP / 0750/2025-2026

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
POONAMALLEE MUNICIPALITY
Tender Notice - Form of contract : Item rate (Two cover system)
Roc No: 1787/2025/E1 **Dated : 29.07.2025**

Bids are invited by the Commissioner, Poonamallee Municipality for **Providing Under Ground Sewarage System in Poonamallee Municipality** at an estimate cost of **Rs.241.51 crores** under KfW assisted SMIF-TN-III through **online** only. The bid documents can be downloaded from the website **https://tntenders.gov.in** at free of cost. 1% of value put to Tender to be paid towards bid security and Rs.25,000/- paid towards bid processing fees.

IMPORTANT DATES

1. Bid document download from **: 06.08.2025** at **10.00 AM** Onwards
2. Date and time of Pre bid meeting **: 21.08.2025** at **11.00 AM**
3. Place of Pre-bid Meeting : Thiruverkadu Municipal Office, (Commissioner Chamber)
4. Last date and time for downloading bid documents : **24.09.2025** upto **3.00 PM**
5. Last Date and time for submission of bid document (Online submission) : **24.09.2025** upto **3.00 PM**
6. Date and time of opening of the Technical Bid : **24.09.2025** at **3.30 PM**

In the event of specified date for submission of bids is declared as a holiday, bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue. Date of opening of Price bids will be informed after scrutinizing the Technical bids.

DIPR/ 3954 /TENDER/2025

Commissioner,
Poonamallee Municipality.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, Sri. Krishnappa, Son of Late Gujjappa & others i.e., the legal heirs of Late. Gujjappa, Venkatappa, and Channappa are the absolute owners of the property described in the Item No.1 of the Schedule Property hereunder.

Sri M. Pillappa, Sri M. Krishnappa and Sri Venkatesh M. all sons of Sri Maddurappa are the absolute owners of the property described in the Item No.2 of the Schedule Property hereunder.

It is brought to the notice of the general public that, our client has negotiated and decided to purchase the Schedule Property from the above said owner. All persons having any claims against to the Schedule Property or any part thereof by way of inheritance, mortgage, sale, conveyance, MOU, Agreement to Sell, Joint Development Agreement, G.P.A, transfer, lease deed, tenancy, license, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, gift, exchange, possession, adverse possession or otherwise howsoever are hereby required to submit the same in writing along with documentary proof to the undersigned at their office **within 15 days from the date of publication hereof**, failing which our client shall proceed without any reference to such claim and the same, if any, will be considered as waived.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Item No.1: All that piece and parcel of the agricultural dry land bearing **Survey No.28/1** measuring to an extent of **3 Acres 27 Guntas** situated at Channena Agrahara Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District and bounded on the East By: Survey No.77; West By: Survey No.28/2; North by: Survey No.27 & 29; South By: Submangala Survey No.88 & 89/1.

Item No.2: All that piece and parcel of the portion of agricultural dry Land in **Survey No.28 (Previous Survey No. 28/2)** measuring to an extent of **1 Acre 07 Guntas** out of 7 Acres 14 guntas situated at Channena Agrahara Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District and bounded on the East By: The remaining portion of Survey number 28 belongs to Krishnappa and family, (previously Survey No.28/1); West By: Survey No.30/4; North by: Narayanaswamy's Land; South By: Narayanappa's Land.

Dated this the 31st July 2025 at Bangalore

M/S. LEGAL NEXUS
ADVOCATES & CONSULTANTS
No. 428, First Floor, 25th Cross, 24th Main
Sector 2, HSR Layout, Bangalore – 560 102
Phone: 080-65555914
Mobile: 9945688974; 9164150690

Tamil Nadu Power Generation Corporation Ltd
Notice Inviting Tenders (E-Tendering Process)

Specification No.	Tender Inviting Authority	Name of the work
62	SE/P&A/MTPS	Design Engg Supply erection of bag filters in dust extraction system DE1 DE10 DE13 DE14 in CHPII

For details of works / Procurement / Due date of submission / Opening, viewing and downloading of e-tenders, please visit websites: **www.tnpdcl.org, www.tenders.tn.gov.in, www.tntenders.gov.in**

DIPR/4011/Tender/2025

SRI JAYADEVA INSTITUTE OF CARDIOVASCULAR SCIENCES & RESEARCH
(Govt. of Karnataka - Reg. Autonomous Institute)
Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru-560 069.
Ph.: +91-80-22977666/276/433/282/333
Tele Fax:080-26534625/477 | e-mail: director.sjicr@gmail.com

REF:SJICS&R/ACCTS/FD/2025-26 **Date:30.07.2025**

e- AUCTION

Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru invites tender in single bid system from eligible tenderers through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal of Government of Karnataka for investment of surplus funds as mentioned below:

Sl. No.	Auction Notice No. & Date	Particulars
1	SJICR/2025-26/ AUCTION-021 Dtd.30.07.2025	e-Auction for Investment of surplus funds of Rs.110.00 Crores of SJICR for One Year.

The tenderers can download the documents from **https:/kppp.karnataka.gov.in** from **30.07.2025** and the last date and time to confirm participation of interest in e-Auction is on **02.08.2025 upto 4.00 PM**

1. Date of Technical Bid Opening : **04.08.2025 at 4.00 PM**
2. EMD : **Rs.5,000/-.**
3. Live Bidding (e-Auction) : commences at **10-00AM** and concludes at **03:00 PM on 06.08.2025.**
4. For further details, please visit our website: **www.jayadevacardiology.com**
5. The Tender Accepting Authority reserves the right to accept/reject/cancel the tender partially or fully without assigning any reason at any stage of processing.

Sd/-
Chief Administrative Officer.

INBRIEF

Actor Prakash Raj questioned by ED in betting app case

Actor Prakash Raj appeared before the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Wednesday in connection with its ongoing probe into the alleged promotion of unauthorised online betting platforms. He arrived at the ED office in Basheerbagh with his lawyer."He answered all the questions...we will be verifying his statements and decide if we have to call him again," said an officer. Mr. Prakash Raj was the first among the 29 to appear for questioning in the case.

Mr. Prakash Raj is among several celebrities summoned by the agency under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). Actor Rana Daggubati, who was directed to appear on July 23, has sought permission to depose at a later date.

Actor Devan says no plans to withdraw from AMMA polls

Actor Devan said on Wednesday that he has no plans to withdraw from the contest for the post of president of the Association of Malayalam Movie Artistes (AMMA). He denied reports that he may withdraw his nomination to pave way for the election of a woman to the top post. "I had hoped that senior actors Mohanlal or Mammootty would lead the organisation. I decided to file the nomination for the post of president only after Mr. Mohanlal declined to decided that he will not contest," he said.

Catholic denominations hold protest against arrest of nuns

Church leaders and the laity take out silent march to Raj Bhavan; members of LDF delegation visit the sisters in Chhattisgarh prison; Minister Suresh Gopi's silence on the issue questioned

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The various rites of the Catholic Church in Kerala came together for a joint protest on Wednesday against the arrest of two Keralite nuns at Durg in Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-ruled Chhattisgarh last Friday on charges of forced conversion and human trafficking, allegations which various political parties and civil society have termed baseless.

Church leaders and laity members from the Syro-Malankara, Syro-Malabar, and Latin rites took part in the silent march with their mouths gagged to Raj Bhavan, in a reflection of the groundswell of anger and concern over the arrests.

Addressing the protest, Cardinal Baselios Cleemis, president of the Kerala Catholic Bishops' Council, said: "When such incidents happen, those in power should display the will power to address it immediately. That is when minority communities like ours feel safe in the country. The State BJP president himself has said that the allegations against the nuns are false".

General Education Minister V. Sivankutty said Union Minister of State Suresh Gopi's "speechlessness" on the issue was surprising, given the latter's demonstrative affinity for Christians and their faith

Christian nuns wear black band as they protest outside the Raj Bhavan in Thiruvananthapuram on Wednesday. NIRMAL HARINDRAN

'Nuns will get hospital care'

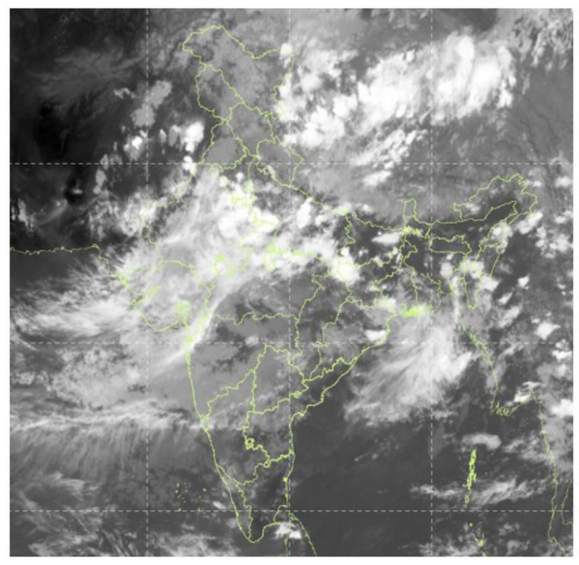
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
The authorities at the Durg Central Prison promised to shift the reportedly ailing nuns to the district hospital, according to members of the LDF delegation that meet the duo on Wednesday. CPI leader Annie Raja said the nuns found the prison conditions unbearable.

Left Democratic Front (LDF) MPs will seek an appointment with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Minister Amit Shah. A.A. Rahim, MP, told *The Hindu* that the MPs would demand an early release.

RELATED REPORTS
» PAGE 12

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.30 HRS)

Forecast for Thursday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Rajasthan, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Gilgit-Baltistan, Muzaffarabad, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	33.5	26.2	Kozhikode	15	33.4	24.2
Ahmedabad	—	32.4	26.0	Kurnool	—	31.8	24.8
Aizawl	2.4	32.9	20.8	Lucknow	5	33.2	26.5
Allahabad	13	33.4	26.4	Madurai	—	40.5	26.1
Bengaluru	—	28.2	19.8	Mangaluru	—	29.4	23.4
Bhopal	93	27.1	21.8	Mumbai	5	28.9	26.0
Bhubaneswar	0.4	31.2	25.0	Mysuru	—	28.4	20.0
Chandigarh	0.3	33.9	27.2	New Delhi	68	32.7	25.8
Chennai	—	38.1	28.2	Patna	31	33.6	26.5
Coimbatore	—	33.2	22.3	Port Blair	—	31.4	26.7
Dehradun	26	32.8	23.8	Puducherry	—	38.3	27.3
Gangtok	52	20.7	18.7	Pune	4.4	28.6	23.9
Goa	3	30.2	25.8	Raipur	1	29.4	23.8
Guwahati	—	34.1	26.9	Ranchi	—	28.5	23.0
Hubballi	—	28.0	23.0	Shillong	2	25.4	18.5
Hyderabad	—	29.7	22.5	Shimla	21	25.4	20.4
Imphal	1.6	33.3	22.1	Srinagar	3	28.6	21.0
Jaipur	9	27.8	25.2	Thiruvananthapuram	—	32.4	24.8
Kochi	3	30.4	24.2	Tiruchi	—	37.9	27.0
Kohima	3	26.9	19.4	Vijayawada	0.2	35.5	26.4
Kolkata	38	30.3	26.7	Visakhapatnam	—	33.3	28.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.14	..64	53	 69	81	.....
Bengaluru	...9	..11	34	 33	...132	.....
Chennai	...5	..29	.—	 32	...119	.....
Delhi	.12	..37	57	 73	...113	.....
Hyderabad	.38	..19	38	 84	...101	.....
Kolkata	.12	..77	24	 19	29	.....
Lucknow	.43	..12	15	 65	51	.....
Mumbai	.28	..19	25	 64	79	.....
Pune	.13	..18	39	 88	81	.....
Visakhapatnam	.27	..46	28	 55	...109	.....

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Sri Ganganagar, Rajasthan recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 212 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 18

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Investigation confirms sabotage in Bagmathi Express accident

S. Vijay Kumar
CHENNAI

Forcible removal of fittings in the railway track led to the rear-end collision of Bagmathi Express with a freight train at Kavarapettai railway station in Southern Railway's Chennai Division on the night of October 11, 2024, says the final investigation report of the Commissioner of Railway Safety.

Confirming the sabotage, the report said removal of fittings and connections at Point No. 51B by "miscreants" led to the collision of Train 12578 Mysuru-Dharbanga Bagmathi Express with the stabled goods train. Thirteen coaches derailed and a power car went up in flames in the accident that left about 19 passengers injured.

'Forceful alteration'

"This happened not due to automatic/sudden failure of any equipment or assets but due to the forceful alteration in the designed position of Left Hand Tongue Rails (which divert a passing train from one track to another)...," the report said.

After the CRS asked the railways to identify vulnerable areas prone to sabotage and ensure patrolling based on threat levels, the Railway Board responded by saying that such locations were already identified and security measures, including installation of surveillance cameras and intelligence gathering, taken in coordination with the railway and local police taken.

Special forces have been deployed in sensitive sections and all divisions have been directed to ensure patrolling based on threat perceptions.

Role of insider

The report said the possibility of sabotage involving an insider was a grave matter and the intelligence machinery of the railways should develop a mechanism of gathering inputs in that angle.

On this note, the railways wrote to the CRS saying that the Special Intelligence Branch (SIB) of the Railway Protection Force (RPF), in coordination with Central and State intelligence agencies, has strengthened security to prevent sabotage, especially from insiders.

SIB units across Zonal Railways were instructed to intensify intelligence gathering on railway employees, contractual workers and other associated personnel.

After the report commended the good work of Loco Pilot G. Subramani whose alertness and promptness in applying emergency brakes reduced the speed of the train and consequent impact of the collision, the railways said his name was recommended for the 'Ati Vishisht Rail Seva Puraskar'.

₹700-cr. sheep distribution scam: ED raids eight locations

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The Enforcement Directorate (ED), on Wednesday, raided eight locations in Hyderabad as part of its probe into the ₹700 crore sheep distribution scam.

The searches were carried out at properties linked to beneficiaries, suspected middlemen, and those named in prior complaints, including G. Kalyan, Officer on Special Duty (OSD) to former Minister Talasani Srinivas Yadav.

Kalyan is one of the accused in an FIR filed by the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB), which had earlier unearthed large-scale irregularities in the implementation of the scheme.

The searches concluded with the seizure of documents related to payments. According to an ED officer, evidence found indicated that actual monetary transactions had occurred.

Money trail

During Wednesday's raids, those identified were on the basis of financial transactions that raised red flags during the preliminary inquiry. The ED is now examining the money trail to determine how public funds may have been misused.

Although the FIRs mention proceeds of crime of only ₹2.1 crores, the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has pointed to a much larger loss to the government. The audit covered just 7 out of 33 districts in Telangana and estimated a loss of ₹253.93 crores. "If the same pattern holds across the state, the total loss could be over ₹1,000 crores," the officer from ED commented.

Season of surplus

Gushing out: Irrigation officials released over 60,000 cusecs of flood water from the Prakasam barrage into the Krishna river on Wednesday in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh. A flood alert has been issued to villages and habitations in the vicinity. G.N. RAO

High drama over council meeting agenda; 3 Cong. councillors suspended

The Hindu Bureau
HUBBALLI

Congress councillors rule the incident as highhandedness by the ruling BJP; mayor defends action

The monthly council meeting of the Hubballi-Dharwad Municipal Corporation (HDMC) witnessed high drama on Wednesday with the opposition Congress councillors rushing to the well of the House objecting to an issue being dropped from the agenda which consequently led to the suspension of three councillors by the Mayor and the marshals being called to send them out.

And, in the melee, woman councillor Suvarna Kallakuntla, who was being carried out by the marshals, fell down, leading to further chaos.

Ms. Kallakuntla was immediately given water. HDMC Health Officer Sridhar Dandappanavar also attended to her. The officer checked her BP and as she complained of chest pain, the councillor was immediately rushed to a hospital nearby from where she was discharged in the evening.

There were two adjournments as the Congress councillors were upset over the issue of the State government's grant of ₹10 crore to the municipal corporation not being included in the agenda. .

The Congress councillors left the council hall, but stood outside the hall to protest. Speaking to presspersons, opposition leader Imran Yaligar and others termed the whole incident as highhandedness of the ruling BJP, while Mayor Jyoti Patil defended her action.

A year after landslides, tourism unchecked in Kerala's hill stations

Dhinesh Kallungal
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

A year after the disastrous twin landslides in Wayanad, the effort to rein in mass tourism in fragile hilly areas in the State has yet to reap dividends because of the relatively slow progress of the exercise. Although the Kerala High Court last September directed the State to hold the carrying capacity study of all hill stations in Kerala in a month, the State has yet to complete the exercise and submit the report.

The study has been suggested to determine the maximum number of tourists who can visit a tourism destination without affecting the region's ecosystem. The study is meant to assess the physical carrying capacity, real carrying capacity, and effective carrying capacity of the destinations.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, a senior officer who is involved in the exercise said the study undertaken by the Tourism department is still under way, with the collection of data on tourists in selected destinations during peak and non-peak seasons being carried out. In the first phase, Pookode and Vythiri in Wayanad district and Munnar, Mattupetti, and Top Station in Idukki district have been selected. It is suspected that due to financial constraints, the study has been limited to a few selected stations, while the number of tourists who throng destinations such as Chinnakanal or Vattavada in Idukki or other hill stations is on the higher side.

"We hope that the exercise could be completed before December this year. After the pilot study, similar exercises should be conducted in other stations as well," said the officer.

Kerala government's carrying capacity study of select hill stations is yet to be completed. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Livelihood impact

Though the exercise is meant for protecting the ecosystem and the lives and properties of people who live in the vicinity, it has sparked concerns among a section in the hospitality sector. For instance, the Idukki district administration's attempt to prohibit 'jeep tourism' in the hill districts in July met with stiff resistance, forcing the district administration to resume the jeep safari operations in a regulated manner. Although jeep tourism is harmful for the ecosystem in the region, it is still a major means of livelihood, including in Wayanad.

According to Prashanth Vasudev, former deputy director of Kerala Tourism, regulation is what Kerala needs now. Prohibiting the activities en masse would affect the livelihood of a large section of people. The State should also explore the possibility of dark tourism, which was experimented in places like the World Trade Center site in New York City after the 9/11 attacks or Chernobyl with strict regulations, he said.

Waive loans: Priyanka

Meanwhile, the Lok Sabha member from Wayanad and Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Wednesday urged the Union government to waive loans for the people of her parliamentary constituency, who were victims of the massive flood and landslides.

Raising the issue during the Zero Hour in the Lok Sabha, Ms. Vadra complained about the "lack" of Central assistance in helping the affected people rebuild their lives.

Hundreds of people had lost their lives, 17 families had been wiped out, and more than 1,600 buildings had been destroyed in landslides and floods in the Kerala district, she said.

"Hundreds of acres of land were also destroyed. There are coffee plantations, tea plantations, cardamom... there were people whose entire lives were destroyed, including auto drivers, jeep drivers, people who run homestays and do small businesses," Ms. Vadra said. "For one year, we have been requesting the release of funds for Wayanad. Some funds were released, but they were insufficient and given as loans, which is unprecedented. People have lost their lives and entire livelihoods, and we expect them to repay loans?" she said.

It was requested that the landslides and floods be declared a national disaster, which wasn't done initially, but it was eventually designated as a "disaster of a severe nature", she said.

"However, this hasn't been enough as the victims' families are still struggling one year later. It's my honest and heartfelt request on behalf of the people of Wayanad that the Central government consider waiving these loans, which are a small amount for the Centre," Ms. Vadra appealed.

(With inputs from Delhi bureau)

Arrest and unrest

Communal agenda is behind the arrest of nuns for human trafficking

The arrest of two Catholic nuns by the Chhattisgarh police on charges of human trafficking and forced conversion is another instance of growing religion-related harassment. Keralite Sisters Preeti Mary and Vandana Francis, from the order of the Assisi Sisters of Mary Immaculate, were escorting three tribal girls to an Agra convent for jobs when they were apprehended from Durg railway station on July 25 after a Bajrang Dal member filed a complaint. They have been booked under Section 4 of the Chhattisgarh Freedom of Religion Act, 1968 (conversion) and Section 143 of the BNS (trafficking). While Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai insisted that the nuns were engaging in "human trafficking and conversion... through inducement", the kin of the girls have since clarified that there was no forceful conversion and they had given their consent to be taken to Agra. The arrests have led to condemnation across the political spectrum against communal vigilantism. Leaders across political lines have protested. Ruling Left Democratic Front and Opposition United Democratic Front MPs from Kerala held dharnas outside Parliament, and the Catholic Church, through its official mouthpiece, *Deepika*, and other church organisations too denounced the arrests.

This is not the first time that a proselytisation row has erupted involving Christian missionaries. Last year marked 25 years of the brutal killing of Australian missionary Graham Staines and his two minor sons in Odisha. Despite the fact that the Constitution provides citizens the right to practise and propagate the religion of their choice, several States, including U.P., M.P., Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Arunachal Pradesh, Jharkhand and Odisha, have misused provisions of anti-conversion laws that were intended only to prevent conversion through force or fraud or allurement. These laws are often used to criminalise interfaith marriages by labelling conversion by marriage as unlawful. In tribal-dominated regions such as Jharkhand, there is another tension brewing between Adivasis and both Christian tribals and Hindus. While Hindutva groups with the RSS's backing are exhorting tribals to wake up to their Hindu roots, tribal outfits are resisting this and demanding a separate Sarna religious code. Tribal outfits allege that the Hindu groups are doing the same thing as Christian missionaries to subsume their distinct culture. In Chhattisgarh, which has around a 2% Christian population according to the 2011 Census, there is also a debate on whether tribals who are converting to Christianity should be delisted from the Scheduled Tribes. In such a churn, the onus is on political, religious and social organisations to focus on economic development, jobs and welfare. Government machineries should be used to enforce rights, guaranteed by the Constitution, not violate them.

Top board

Indian women are catching up with the men in world chess

Divya Deshmukh's astonishing performance at the women's chess World Cup has put the limelight back on Indian chess, yet again. Rarely does a week pass without an Indian player achieving a significant feat in some corner of the world. Still, what Divya did at Batumi, Georgia, on Monday, deserves attention. The 19-year-old from Nagpur won one of the most prestigious tournaments, coming through a gruelling knockout competition, outwitting rivals much stronger and more experienced. She had started out as the 15th seed. That she defeated another Indian, the fourth-seeded Koneru Humpy and reigning World rapid chess champion, in the final, underlined the country's domination of the event. Two other Indians, D. Harika and R. Vaishali, had also advanced to the quarterfinals. The great show in Georgia does not make India a superpower in women's chess, though. That honour belongs to China, home to the last three women's World champions. Though the Indian women, like the men, won the Chess Olympiad last year at Budapest, China has more depth. India may now boast the world's best young talent among men, in the form of World champion D. Gukesh, World No. 4 R. Praggnanandhaa and No. 5 Arjun Erigaisi among others, but the bench in women's chess is not all that strong.

Divya's – and India's – stunning success should no doubt inspire young girls to take up chess as a career. The huge media attention that Divya has received – she has been featured on the front pages of newspapers, became breaking news on TV and got plenty of traction online – could encourage even more parents to make their daughters learn chess. And India needs more girls to move the pieces on the chessboard. Though the current Indian lineup looks good enough to retain the Olympiad gold next year, it is imperative that the country needs to spot and nurture fresh young talent. There are a few players such as Vantika Agrawal and B. Savitha Shri, but in the world's top 100, there are only eight Indians, while China has 14, including the top three. India's chess administrators have to make some long-term plans for women's chess, and should implement them quickly. After identifying a fairly large group of promising girls, they need to be properly trained and provided excellent coaches. Only few families can afford the highly expensive trainers and the travel to Europe, from where the Indian players usually make their norms for their Grandmaster or International Master titles. There should also be more such tournaments in India.

India's police must get out of Dirty Harry's shadow

K. Ashok Vardhan Shetty

is a retired IAS officer and a former Vice-Chancellor of the Indian Maritime University, Chennai

Imagine a crime scene, where two detectives arrive. The first person is Sherlock Holmes, who is calm, meticulous and relentlessly logical. He sees what others overlook, asks things that others miss, and lets logic and evidence guide every step. He knows that the truth cannot be extracted by force and that it must be uncovered through careful, patient investigation.

The other person is Dirty Harry, gruff, impatient and contemptuous of rules. He does not investigate; he intimidates. He does not gather evidence; he extracts confessions. For him, justice is about speed, not accuracy, even if it leaves behind broken bodies and ruined lives.

These are not just fictional characters. They represent two conflicting visions of policing in India. The question is this. In the fight against crime, do we want a Sherlock Holmes or a Dirty Harry in our police stations?

A culture of impunity

The custodial death of Ajith Kumar, a 27-year-old temple guard, in June, in Tamil Nadu, is a grim reminder of the perils of the Dirty Harry-style of policing. The case (which involved missing jewellery from a car) happened just months after the Tamil Nadu Police Commission had recommended, among other things, a series of reforms to curb custodial torture.

According to a 2023 Lok Sabha reply, 687 people had died in police custody across India between 2018-19 and 2022-23, which is an average of two to three deaths every week. The data showed that these States had the highest numbers – Gujarat (81), Maharashtra (80), Madhya Pradesh (50), Bihar (47), Uttar Pradesh (41), West Bengal (40), and Tamil Nadu (36).

Official figures conceal more than they reveal. Many custodial deaths are quietly labelled as suicides, accidents, or sudden illnesses. Torture often occurs off the record – beyond lockups and CCTV surveillance. In Ajith Kumar's case, it reportedly happened in police vans, abandoned buildings, a village tank bed, and in a cow shed behind a temple.

Custodial violence overwhelmingly targets the daily-wage worker, the migrant, the slum dweller, the Dalit, and the tribal. So, torture is not just bad policing. It is structural injustice that reflects and reinforces the entrenched hierarchies of caste, class and power.

Torture persists due to inadequate training especially for the public-facing constabulary that makes up 90% of the police force alongside poor infrastructure, pressure to deliver quick results, and weak institutional oversight. Disciplinary action is rare and criminal convictions rarer still.

> It is time for a policing reset where human dignity and professionalism replace fear, coercion and the illusion of quick justice

More troubling is societal tolerance of custodial violence, which normalises the abuse, turning crime into the routine and impunity into unofficial policy.

In *D.K. Basu* (1996), the Supreme Court of India had laid down detailed safeguards against custodial torture. In *K.S. Puttaswamy* (2017), it reaffirmed dignity and bodily autonomy as fundamental rights. Yet, torture remains rampant. The Law Commission of India's 273rd Report (2017) urged Parliament to enact a standalone anti-torture law, but no such law exists. India has yet to ratify the United Nations Convention Against Torture. In 2025, India was ranked a "high-risk" country in the Global Torture Index – a searing indictment we can no longer ignore.

On research and real world examples

The case against torture is not just moral or legal. It is scientific. Torture is often mythologised as a necessary evil – the quick fix when time is short and lives are at stake. Films and television shows often portray a suspect cracking under pressure, revealing the truth just in time. But decades of scientific research and real-world evidence tell a very different story.

In *Why Torture Doesn't Work: The Neuroscience of Interrogation* (2015), neuroscientist Shane O'Mara explains that torture impairs the brain's prefrontal cortex and hippocampus, the very regions essential for memory and clarity. Victims become disoriented, incoherent, and cognitively impaired; they will say anything, even lie, just to end the pain.

Experience bears this out. During the Algerian War (1954-62), French forces used torture extensively, only to find that much of the intelligence gathered from Algerian insurgents was useless or led to dead ends. In 2007, the International Committee of the Red Cross found that detainees from CIA "black sites" had confessed only to end their suffering, producing false or unusable information. In the United States, the Innocence Project used DNA evidence to overturn over 375 wrongful convictions, many based on coerced confessions. In Ajith Kumar's case, the victim 'confessed' to hiding jewels in a cowshed – not because it was true, but because he wanted the beatings to stop.

The CIA's now-infamous "enhanced interrogation techniques" – waterboarding, stress positions, sleep deprivation – were debunked in the U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee Report (2014). The 525-page partially redacted summary (from a 6,700-page report), based on classified CIA documents, concluded that these methods failed to yield actionable intelligence against al Qaeda. Worse, the time wasted chasing false leads had diverted attention from actual threats. So, what works? According to a Netflix documentary "American Manhunt: Osama bin Laden", the vital lead (the courier who led the U.S. to bin Laden) was uncovered through good, old-fashioned detective work – non-coercive intelligence gathering, surveillance, and methodical analysis.

After the wrongful conviction of six men in the 1974 Birmingham pub bombings, the U.K. abandoned confession-based policing. It adopted the PEACE model (Preparation and Planning, Engage and Explain, Account, Closure, and Evaluation) that focused on building rapport and trust with a suspect, open-ended questioning, active listening, and video recording of the interviews. This model reduced false confessions, improved conviction accuracy and restored public trust. Countries such as Norway, Canada and New Zealand have adopted it with similar success. The European Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT) has endorsed it.

Post-9/11, the High-Value Detainee Interrogation Group (HIG), a joint initiative of the FBI, the CIA, and the Department of Defence, undertook extensive research on interrogation techniques. Its peer-reviewed studies confirmed that non-coercive, rapport-based methods consistently outperformed torture in producing accurate, timely, and actionable intelligence.

In Norway, far-right terrorist Anders Breivik, who killed 77 people in 2011, was interrogated without threats or coercion. The police's calm, professional approach led to a full confession and valuable insights into extremist networks, demonstrating that even the most heinous crimes do not justify abandoning legal principles. In the U.S., Najibullah Zazi, who plotted the 2009 New York subway bombing, cooperated with the FBI after being treated with respect. His detailed disclosures helped dismantle a wider terror network.

Holmes, not Harry

The core issue is that this is not a debate about policing. It is a test of our democratic maturity. The law must protect the most vulnerable, not brutalise them. Every custodial beating is not just a wound on the body of a citizen. It is a stain on the soul of the state. India must immediately ratify the UN Convention Against Torture and enact a standalone anti-torture law. All States should embed the PEACE model into police training, and declare zero tolerance for custodial abuse. When Sherlock Holmes's methods succeed in reality – not just in fiction – why should India cling to Dirty Harry's shadow?

Spectacle, privacy and sharing in the digital age

Madhavi Ravikumar

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On a balmy evening in Boston, a Coldplay concert became the stage for an incident that reverberated far beyond the music. During a light-hearted "kiss-cam" segment, the camera focused on two individuals – the CEO of Astronomer, and the firm's HR director. The startled reactions of the man and woman, captured by an audience member's smartphone, ignited a digital firestorm. Within hours, the video went viral, inciting speculation about an alleged affair. Both individuals were married, and the online frenzy culminated in the CEO's resignation. Fake apologies and doctored posts further muddied the waters, transforming a fleeting moment into a global morality narrative.

The deeper issues

At first glance, the Coldplay episode may seem like mere tabloid material. Yet it exposes deeper anxieties about privacy, spectacle and morality in our hyper-connected society. It prompts us to question not only media ethics and platform accountability but also the nature of spectatorship itself. When personal discomfort becomes meme material and moral commentary, we must inquire. What is the cost of our participation? Media theorist Mark Andrejevic describes this as "lateral surveillance", where individuals monitor and expose one another through digital instruments.

In his seminal work, *iSpy: Surveillance and Power in the Interactive Era*, he identifies this as a characteristic of participatory culture, distinct from institutional surveillance. The Coldplay video was likely shared in jest or curiosity, but its viral spread, propelled by platforms such as Instagram and X, led to reputational damage.

Shoshana Zuboff's concept of surveillance capitalism elucidates this phenomenon – platforms are designed to amplify emotionally provocative and ambiguous content. The video's success lay not in truth but in its ability to provoke speculation. Its virality was orchestrated by algorithms that favour engagement over ethics.

India has seen similar episodes. In 2023, a video of a couple in the Delhi Metro went viral, leading to harsh trolling and moral policing, targeting the woman. Such incidents, often involving women, marginalised groups, or the economically disadvantaged, reveal a pattern: digital virality thrives on indignation and voyeurism, with disproportionate harm to the vulnerable. These instances highlight a key issue: visibility does not equate to consent. Philosopher Helen Nissenbaum's theory of "contextual integrity" helps explain this breach: privacy is not secrecy, but control over how personal information circulates within specific contexts.

> The Coldplay episode must prompt questions about media ethics, platform accountability and the nature of spectatorship

A concertgoer does not anticipate a transient expression to become global content. While recording may appear innocuous, mass dissemination, amplified by algorithms, disrupts those contextual boundaries. The public reaction to the Coldplay video ranged from humour to moral condemnation, crafting an unverified narrative of infidelity. Daniel Trottier describes this as "digital vigilantism" – a sort of informal justice where online users act as moral enforcers. Unlike formal systems, it relies on speculation, with rapid and often irreversible consequences.

The issue of verification

The function of legacy media in such incidents is increasingly troubling. News organisations, often influenced by social media trends, tend to amplify viral content without adequate verification. In the Coldplay case, reports of the CEO's resignation largely reflected online narratives, with minimal independent investigation. This reversal, where publication precedes verification, challenges the ethical foundation of journalism. Should private individuals be subjected to public scrutiny based simply on unverified social media content? What evidential standards should apply?

Platform design exacerbates these issues. Algorithms on TikTok, Instagram, and X prioritise emotionally charged content, emphasising engagement over accuracy. As media scholar Nancy Baym observes, platforms shape not just what we consume but how we interact, encouraging performance over reflection.

In India, where digital literacy is inconsistent, and caste, gender, and religious hierarchies persist, the risks are amplified. Viral videos of Dalit or tribal creators, for instance, often provoke casteist backlash, turning digital visibility into vulnerability. The Coldplay episode also reveals how easily reputational harm can outpace facts. Legal protections such as privacy and defamation laws exist, but their ability to address algorithmically driven harm remains limited, particularly across borders.

Reflect on digital behaviour

How do we traverse this complex terrain? First, public awareness around the ethics of digital sharing must grow. What one finds "share-worthy" may profoundly harm another. Educational initiatives, especially in schools and communities, can help foster empathy and self-restraint. Second, platforms must take greater responsibility for promoting morally ambiguous content. There is an urgent need for technologies that flag, contextualise, or slow the spread of sensitive videos. Third, journalism must reaffirm its gatekeeping role, prioritising verification and proportionality over viral allure. Most importantly, we as users must reflect on our own digital behaviour. The line between witnessing and exposing is razor-thin, and our choices to record, post, or comment carry consequences beyond the moment.

The Coldplay kiss-cam incident is not an outlier but part of a broader cultural shift, where spectacle frequently overrides sensitivity. As India and the world contend with the complexities of the digital public sphere, we must ask this: do we want a society that treats every moment as content, or one that prioritises empathy and responsibility? Our digital behaviour reflects our moral compass. In an age where any face in a crowd can become viral, the ethics of sharing call for urgent reflection. Only through mindful engagement can we build a digital culture that respects dignity.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NISAR satellite mission

We must congratulate Team ISRO and NASA for the successful launch of the NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) satellite. It is a milestone in the realm of collaborative satellite missions. Surely, such joint missions will foster peer-learning and exposure to cutting-edge space technologies. Further, in the context of climate change imperatives, having uninterrupted all-weather data insights from the satellite will be of relevance.

G. Ramasubramanyam,
Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh

ISRO's success is also on a day when the attempt to send Australia's first rocket into space, on Wednesday, ended in failure, just seconds after its launch in Queensland. One wishes both countries success in their space programmes.

V. Subramaniam,
Chennai

Debate in Parliament

The jury is still out on the debate in Parliament, on Operation Sindoor. Is it not time that we focused on more pressing issues facing the nation than engaging in political blame games in Parliament? While it is natural for political differences to arise, prioritising genuine discussions on real challenges is crucial for the progress of our country. This shift towards constructive dialogue and actionable solutions is not just a necessity but also a responsibility we owe to our nation. Let us ensure that Parliament becomes a platform for meaningful change.

Mohammad Asad,
Mumbai

Rising chess star

Young talent Divya Deshmukh etched her name into chess history by defeating Grandmaster Humpy Koneru. Ms. Deshmukh's victory is more than a personal triumph. It reflects India's deep talent pool and growing stature in women's chess. It also underscores how sustained focus on nurturing female talent is beginning to pay dividends. Her journey, from an underdog to India's newest Grandmaster, will inspire a generation.

R. Sivakumar,
Chennai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

Boost the capacity of legal aid systems

Arshi Showkat
works with the India Justice Report

Saumya Srivastava
works with the India Justice Report

Valay Singh
works with the India Justice Report

Legal services institutions, established under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, are tasked with the mandate of providing free legal aid to nearly 80% of India's population. However, the actual reach remains modest. Between April 2023 and March 2024, just 15.50 lakh people received legal aid services – far below the scale envisioned. This marked a 28% rise from the 12.14 lakh reached the previous year.

Usually attached to local courts, prisons, and juvenile justice boards, these front offices offer free legal counsel through a panel of empanelled lawyers to the economically weak, those in custody, and others facing various vulnerabilities. In rural and remote areas, legal aid clinics serve village clusters. Nationally, there is one legal service clinic for every 163 villages, as per the India Justice Report 2025. The availability and presence of these services is dependent on financial and human resources available.

Budget for legal aid

The budget for legal aid comprises less than 1% of the total justice budget (police, prisons, judiciary, and legal aid). It is provided by States as well as by the Centre through the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), which disburses grants to State Legal Services Authorities (SLSAs).

The total allocation nearly doubled from ₹601 crore in 2017-18 to ₹1,086 crore in 2022-23 across 25 States. This growth was due to an increase in State legal aid budgets, which cumulatively increased from ₹394 crore to ₹866 crore. Thirteen States increased their respective allocations to the legal aid budget by over 100%. They were led by Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Madhya Pradesh. During the same period, (2017-18 to 2022-23), NALSA's funds fell from ₹207 crore to ₹169 crore. The utilisation of NALSA funds also dropped from 75% to 59%.

As per the NALSA Manual for District Legal Services Authorities 2023, SLSAs have been barred from incurring expenditure from the NALSA fund on certain items without prior approval. These included hiring project or front office staff, purchasing or hiring vehicles and equipment, engaging outsourced personnel, expenses related to victim compensation, food distribution, and tree plantation. Instead, it directed that funds be used only for specific functions, with ceilings: 50% for legal aid and advice, 25% for awareness and outreach, and 25% for Alternate Dispute Resolution and mediation.

Since 2019, the national per capita spending on legal aid has doubled from roughly ₹3 to ₹7. According to actual expenditure figures from 2022-23 the highest spend was in Haryana (₹16), while Jharkhand (₹5), Assam (₹5), Uttar Pradesh (₹4), Bihar (₹3), and West Bengal (₹2) spent less than the average ₹6 per capita.

A shrinking frontline

The impact of low fiscal prioritisation coupled with poor utilisation of existing funds is on frontline responders. Para-legal volunteers, who are trained community resources, create awareness, assist in resolving disputes, and act as a bridge between people and legal aid services. The total number of para-legal volunteers dropped by nearly 38% between 2019 and 2024. From 5.7 per lakh population, there were only 3.1 per lakh population in 2023. West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh had only one para-legal volunteer per lakh population.

Low budgets also constrict the ability to deploy para-legal volunteers (paid on a per day basis) on the ground. Over the years, both the numbers of para-legal volunteers trained and deployed have come down drastically. In 2023-24, out of 53,000 para-legal volunteers trained, only 14,000 were deployed, whereas in 2019-20, 63,00 were trained and 22,000 deployed. What is baffling is the reluctance of States to revise honorariums for these para-legal volunteers, which, besides rare exceptions, are invariably below minimum wages across India. As of March 31, 2023, Kerala was the only State paying para-legal volunteers a daily honorarium of ₹750. Twenty-two States paid ₹500 per day, three paid ₹400, and the remaining three (Gujarat, Meghalaya, and Mizoram) offered ₹250, which is barely enough to cover basic daily expenses.

Till 2022, lawyers empanelled with legal services took up cases for both the accused persons and victims. Since 2022, NALSA has been operating a new central sector scheme – the Legal Aid Defence Counsel (LADC), for representing only accused persons. This scheme, modelled on the public defender system, is intended to complement the assigned counsel system. NALSA initiated the scheme to ensure that accused persons/convicts have access to quality and effective legal aid through dedicated lawyers. It is now operational in 610 of the 670 districts across India. In 2023-23, ₹200 crore was specially earmarked for LADCs by NALSA and it was fully utilised. However, in 2024-25, the allocation dropped to ₹147.9 crore. There is tremendous potential that the LADC holds as it also reduces the burden on other lawyers and the system as a whole. However, as the scheme is still fledging, it would be too early to declare it a success.

Although States are making efforts to increase allocations for legal aid, long-standing issues such as inconsistent service quality, absent accountability mechanism, and a lack of trust continue to undermine its effectiveness. Much of these ills can be ameliorated with infusions of money and manpower. It is essential to boost the capacity of legal aid systems to make them truly effective.

Without these resources, the system falls short of providing the quality of justice enshrined in the Constitution.

An unsurprising judgment

A recent Supreme Court verdict has dashed the hopes of Telangana and Andhra

STATE OF PLAY

M. Rajeev
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As the Central government prepares for the next delimitation exercise, which will redraw constituency boundaries based on the first Census after 2026, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh were waiting for their Assembly constituencies to be increased, as promised in the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014. However, a recent Supreme Court judgment has dampened their hopes.

According to the 2014 Act, the number of seats in the Legislative Assemblies was to be increased from 175 to 225 in Andhra Pradesh and from 119 to 153 in Telangana. However, the delimitation process was stalled as the Census could not be conducted in 2020-21 – first because of the COVID-19 pandemic and later for various other reasons.

Telangana has represented the matter to the Central government on many occasions. The State government brought it up during meetings convened by the Union Home Ministry to resolve bilateral issues between Telangana and Andhra Pradesh post-bifurcation and also during Southern Zonal Council meetings held under the chairmanship of Union Home Minister Amit Shah from time to time.

In a letter addressed to Union Home Secretary Rajiv Mehrishi in June 2016, the then Telangana Chief Secretary, Rajiv Sharma, recalled the provision made under Section 26 of the Act for delimitation of constituencies in the two States. As the new State of Telangana came into existence with effect from June 2, 2014, Mr. Sharma requested

the Home Ministry to place the matter before the Election Commission of India (ECI) for increasing seats in the Telangana Legislative Assembly from 119 to 153 as envisaged in the Act as soon as possible. Telangana's former Chief Electoral Officer, Rajat Kumar, also spoke of the impact of transferring a few mandals of Khammam district in Telangana to neighbouring Andhra Pradesh post-bifurcation. He said that the three constituencies were reserved for Scheduled Tribes.

Professor K. Purushottam Reddy filed a plea in the Supreme Court seeking readjustment of seats in the Assemblies of the two States, pointing to the exercise in Jammu and Kashmir as a precedent. In its judgment last week, the Supreme Court ruled out delimitation of constituencies till the completion and publication of the Census, which is expected to start in 2026. The Court dismissed his petition saying granting relief would be "contrary to the letter and spirit of constitutional design". It said that "Article 170 [which deals with composition of Legislative Assemblies in States] has no application to Union Territories..." It said that the Centre therefore did not discriminate against the electorates of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, nor dampen their legitimate expectations by conducting delimitation of constituencies in the Union Territory of J&K, which was being governed by a distinct constitutional and statutory regime. Justice Surya Kant also explained that there was a specific constitutional embargo in Article 170 stating that delimitation in States was barred until after the completion of the first Census post 2026. Article 170(3) lays down that "upon the completion of each Census, the total number of seats in the Legislative Assembly of each State and the division of each State into territorial constituencies shall be readjusted by such authority in such a manner as Parliament by law determine".

The next Census, scheduled to begin in 2026, is likely to be conducted in two phases. The official headcount and house-listing process that will precede it are expected to be completed by March 1, 2027. The numbers will take a few years to be finalised and released. The Delimitation Commission can base its work only on the published Census figures and this could further delay the delimitation exercise in the two States. This means that the exercise will start only after the publication of the next Census data.

While the verdict has dashed the hopes of the States, it is also unsurprising. No political party, including the Bharat Rashtra Samithi which claims to have played a crucial role in drafting the Act, seems to have paid notice to the wording of the Act. As former MP B. Vinod Kumar rightly said at a press conference, simply adding the words "notwithstanding Section 170 sub clause 3" in the 2014 Act would have resolved the problem. If that had been done, delimitation in these two States would possibly not have been clubbed with delimitation across the country.

Share of AC berths doubled in last decade in long-distance trains

Government data also shows that the share of passengers who travelled in AC coaches has tripled in the last decade

DATA POINT

Nitika Francis
Devyanshi Bihani
Vignesh Radhakrishnan

In the last decade, the share of air-conditioned (AC) berths/seats in non-suburban trains (long-distance trains) has doubled, while the share of non-AC berths/seats has declined considerably in India. In parallel, the share of passengers who travelled in AC coaches has tripled, while the share of those who travelled in second class has declined considerably.

Suburban trains are meant for short distances, usually up to 150 kilometres, to facilitate movement within cities, suburbs, and extended suburbs. These trains operate with electrical multiple units rakes or EMUs. Non-suburban trains cover longer distances and this analysis is restricted to them.

These conclusions assume significance, given that the Indian Railways is keen on increasing the number of AC three-tier coaches in long-distance trains – the only class of travel which has fetched consistent profits for the organisation – in place of sleeper and other coaches. While news reports show that in many long-distance trains, sleeper and second class coaches are being substituted with AC three-tier coaches, the government has refuted such claims in a recent reply in the Lok Sabha.

In a question answered on July 23, the Minister of Railways, Ashwini Vaishnaw, had said that the share of non-AC coaches has "significantly increased to about 70%". However, the data shared in the reply does not specify the base year from which this increase was calculated. The data shared by the Minister also claimed that in FY25, 1,250 general coaches have been utilised in long-distance trains, while the corresponding figures for AC coaches were not divulged.

However, data for non-suburban trains collated from the Indian Railways Annual Reports of 2023-24 and 2013-14 show substantial increase in AC berths/seats. In the last decade, the share of non-AC berths/seats declined from over 84% to 68% of the total available berths/seats in non-suburban trains, while the share of AC berths/seats increased from close to 16% to about 32% **(Chart 1)**.

The increase in berths/seats was particularly pronounced in AC three-tier coaches. The share of these in the total increased from around 10% to 24% in the last decade. On the other hand, the share of berths/seats in sleeper coaches decreased from 33.3% to 29% and the share of 'other non-AC' coaches came down from 51% to 39%.

An analysis of the percentage increase and decrease in berths/seats over the past decade also highlights a growing preference for AC coaches. In 2023-24, the berths/seats in AC three-tier coaches had increased by 238% from 2013-14. In contrast, the berths/seats in sleeper coaches increased by only 21% and 'other non-AC' coaches increased by only 6.4% in the same period **(Chart 2)**.

A similar pattern can be seen when analysing the number of passengers who travelled across various classes of non-suburban trains. For instance, the share of passengers in AC three-tier coaches in total increased from less than 2% in 2013-14 to 7.5% in 2023-24. In contrast, the share of those in second class mail/ordinary coaches in total declined from over 88% to 75.5%. Those in sleeper mail/ordinary coaches increased from 8.3% to 13.2% **(Chart 3)**.

An analysis of the percentage increase and decrease in passengers carried also shows a similar pattern. In 2023-24, the number of passengers in AC three-tier coaches increased by 201% from 2013-14. On the other hand, those carried in second class mail/ordinary coaches decreased by 36%. Passengers carried in sleeper mail/ordinary coaches increased by just 18.6% **(Chart 4)**.

A class apart

The data for the charts were sourced from the Indian Railways Annual Statistical Statements 2013-14 and 2023-24

Chart 1: The share (%) of berths/seats in non-suburban trains across India — 2013-14, 2023-24

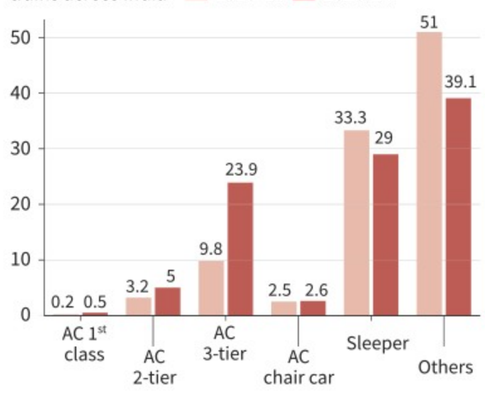


Chart 2: Percentage change in the number of berths/seats in non-suburban trains in the last decade

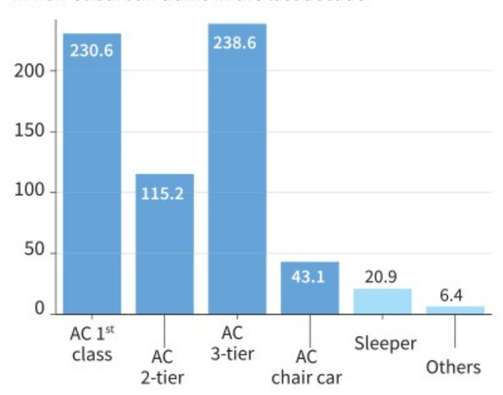


Chart 3: The share (%) of passengers carried in non-suburban trains across India — 2013-14, 2023-24

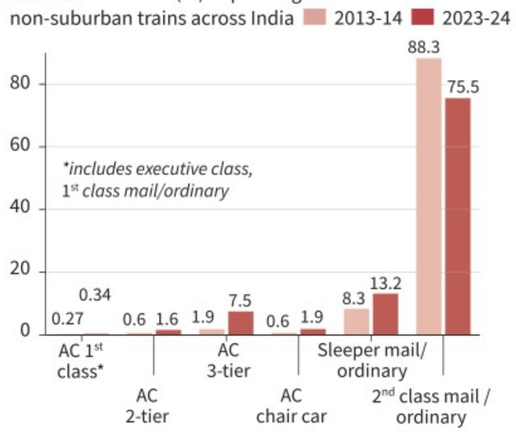
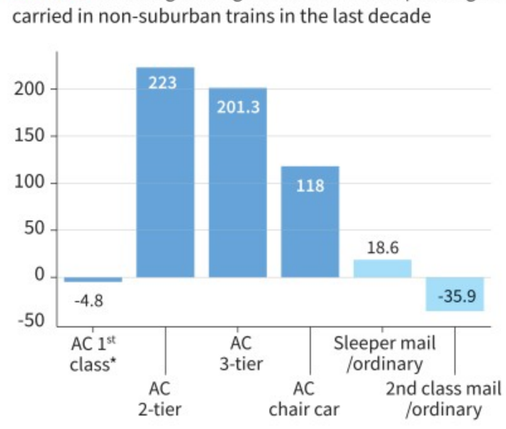


Chart 4: Percentage change in the number of passengers carried in non-suburban trains in the last decade



FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 31, 1975

Progress at Brezhnev, Ford mini-summit

Helsinki (Finland), July 30: The U.S. President, Mr. Gerald Ford and the Soviet leader, Mr. Leonid Brezhnev reported progress towards a nuclear arms curb agreement after a mini-summit to-day that overshadowed the opening of the 35-nation European Security Conference.

The host country President, Mr. Urho Kekkonen, officially opened the conference, the biggest gathering of world leaders in 160 years, acclaiming it "a day of joy and hope for Europe."

But with its final document – a non-binding set of principles – already agreed upon, the super summit served mainly to spur a feverish round of diplomatic activity.

Mr. Ford and Mr. Brezhnev met for two hours and 15 minutes in the first of their two scheduled mini-summits being watched closely by the 33 other European and North American leaders here. They are aware that only agreement between the two super powers can bring peace to this continent ravaged by war for centuries.

The U.S. President and Mr. Brezhnev met reporters at the U.S. Embassy where they conferred before going to Helsinki's Finlandia Hall to attend the opening of the Security Conference.

The Kremlin chief agreed with the U.S. President that the declaration of the European Security Conference, to be signed by 35 countries at an East-West summit here on Friday, would lead to greater stability in Europe.

He said: "I want all the nations of Europe to live in peace with each other and not interfere in each other's domestic affairs."

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JULY 31, 1925

War graves

London, July 30: In the Commons, Mr. Worthington Evans said it was the intention of the Government in conjunction with the Dominions' Governments to establish an endowment fund of five million sterling for the maintenance of the war cemeteries. He proposed to ask the House to vote £50,000 as the United Kingdom's contribution for the current year and a further sum every year, increasing as the cost of the construction work finishes until the capital sum realises the British share of the total amount required for the permanent maintenance of the war graves.

From Page One

Trump's 25% tariff to hit India from tomorrow

In its statement, the Commerce Ministry said the government has taken note of Mr. Trump's statement on bilateral trade.

"The Government is studying its implications. India and the U.S. have been engaged in negotiations on concluding a fair, balanced and mutually beneficial bilateral trade agreement over the last few months. We remain committed to that objective. The Government attaches the utmost importance to protecting and promoting the welfare of our farmers, entrepreneurs, and MSMEs," it said.

"The Government will take all steps necessary to secure our national interest, as has been the case with other trade agreements including the latest Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement with the U.K.," it added.

Retaliatory tariffs

In early April, the U.S. President had imposed retaliatory 'Liberation Day' tariffs on imports from most countries in the world, arguing that these countries imposed much higher tariffs on U.S. goods than the U.S. did on imports from them.

NISAR satellite successfully launched

NISAR is the first satellite to observe the earth with a dual-frequency Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) – NASA's L-band and ISRO's S-band – both using NASA's 12-metre unfurlable mesh reflector antenna, integrated with ISRO's modified I3K satellite bus.

According to NASA officials, its Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) built the radar antenna reflection, radar antenna boom, L-Band SAR and engineering payload, while the ISRO developed the spacecraft bus, solar array S-band SAR and the launch vehicle.

The NISAR mission is broadly classified into different phases - launch, deployment, commissioning and science phases.

The launch phase has been accomplished with the launch of the GSLV-F16 rocket. This is the first time that a GSLV has put a satellite in a sun-synchronous polar orbit.

UN report's mention of TRF a boost: officials

"On 22 April, five terrorists attacked a tourist spot in Pahalgam, in Jammu and Kashmir. Twenty-six civilians were killed. The attack was claimed that same day by The Resistance Front (TRF), who in parallel published a photograph of the attack site. The claim of responsibility was repeated the following day. On 26 April, however, TRF retracted their claim. There was no further communication from TRF, and no other group claimed responsibility," the Monitoring Team said in its report.

Following the publication of the Team's report, officials here noted that the mention of Pakistan-based TRF in a UN document has brought global spotlight to a group that India considers to be the latest addition to the list of Pakistan-based terror outfits like the LeT, Jaish-e-Mohammed and others.

Under Operation Sindoor, Indian armed forces struck locations inside Pakistan that were known to host terror-training facilities. The team further noted that there was high regional tension that could be exploited by terror groups.

India's global campaign on the role of the TRF has been part of its overall campaign that also included sending multi-party teams to various countries in the aftermath of Operation Sindoor.

Two terrorists killed in Poonch sector: Army

An Army spokesperson said Operation 'Shiv Shakti' was a "major setback to nefarious designs of Pakistan-sponsored terrorist organisations that are constantly abetting acts of terror in Jammu & Kashmir region".

"Search operation is in progress in the surrounding areas to rule out the presence of any more terrorists in the area," the spokesman added. "It was a fierce gunfight (with the terrorists). The swift, coordinated and decisive action by security forces prevented any collateral damage and ensured the safety of local population," Lt. Col Bartwal said. "The huge recovery of war-like and logistic stores indicate that the terrorists were well-prepared for prolonged engagement," he added.

The Army said synergistic and synchronised intelligence inputs from its units and the Jammu & Kashmir Police led to the "successful operation". It said the operation was in progress in the area.

The fresh encounter began two days after the security forces killed three terrorists of the Lashkar-e-Taiba who were behind the Pahalgam terror attack in Srinagar's Dachigam area.

Lt. Gen. Pratik Sharma, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief Northern Command, complimented the White Knight Corps for their "swift action and precise execution in neutralising two terrorists in the ongoing operation".

"The Indian Army stands by its commitment to keep Jammu and Kashmir terror-free," the Army said.

Court cites jurisdiction issues, denies bail to two jailed nuns

Nuns told to move a special court for relief; their bail application said the girls accompanying them had volunteered for nursing training and work, and that charges of conversion are baseless

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

A sessions court in Durg district of Chhattisgarh on Wednesday disposed of the bail applications of the two nuns and a Narayanpur resident – who were arrested last week on charges of human trafficking and forcible religious conversion – observing that it did not have the jurisdiction to hear the matter. The court said it could not go into the merits of the case.

In his order, Additional Sessions Judge Anish Dubey cited Section 11 of the National Investigation Agency Act, 2008 to point out the jurisdiction issue and ordered the applicants – nuns Preethi Mary and Vandana Francis, and Sukman Mandavi – to move a special court for relief.

The court noted that Section 2(1)(g) of the NIA Act, 2008 contains a separate Schedule that includes Section 370 of the now-abolished Indian Penal Code, 1860. It further added that Section 143 of the Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita, 2023 [that the applicants are accused of violating] pertains to "trafficking of a person" which is similar to Section 370 of the IPC. Citing Chhattisgarh government orders to list courts that have been given the jurisdiction to hear such cases in different divisions, it said that the applicants move the designated court.

Nuns hold a candlelight vigil in Kochi on Wednesday demanding the release of two Kerala nuns arrested in Chhattisgarh. THULASI KAKKAT

Earlier, the applicants submitted that they were accused on the basis of mere suspicion.

The application also said due to poverty and lack of employment, the three girls were going to Agra voluntarily to work and learn work. The girls were already followers of Christianity and, hence, there was no question of their conversion, the application added.

The bail was opposed by the Public Prosecutor, who submitted that since Section 143 of the IPC was imposed on the accused, "this court has no jurisdiction to hear the bail application".

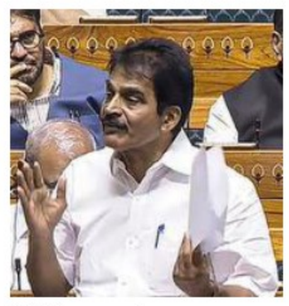
The nuns and Ms. Mandavi were arrested by the Government Railway Police (GRP) at Durg railway station in Chhattisgarh on July 25 following a complaint by a local Bajrang Dal functionary, who accused them of forcibly converting three women from the State's tribal-dominated Narayanpur district and trafficking them. The issue has triggered protests from political parties across the spectrum in the nuns' native State of Kerala.

Senior CPI(M) leader Brinda Karat on Wednesday met the two nuns at the Durg Central Jail in Chhattisgarh following which she called the arrests "unconstitutional and illegal", and demanded their immediate release.

Ms. Karat also held a press conference in Raipur where she said that the allegations against the nuns were false.

Centre must act to ensure release of nuns, says Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI



K.C. Venugopal

The Centre must intervene and ensure the release of two nuns who were arrested in Chhattisgarh on allegations of human trafficking and forcible religious conversion, Congress leader K.C. Venugopal said on Wednesday.

Making an intervention in the Lok Sabha during Zero Hour, the Alappuzha MP described the arrest of the nuns from the Durg railway station as a "deeply disturbing and shocking incident".

The Congress leader said that on July 25, the nuns Preeta Mary and Vandana Francis were targeted by members of the Bajrang Dal. The nuns were reportedly to take two women from Chhattisgarh to Agra to be trained as nurses.

"They belong to the Assisi Sisters of Mary Immaculate, a Syro-Malabar congregation based in Cherthala, and were attacked and falsely accused of religious conversion and human trafficking by Bajrang Dal," Mr. Venugopal said. "This institution belongs to my constituency and they are helping terminally ill cancer patients by offering palliative care," he added.

BJP MP from Durg, Vijay Baghel, alleged a conspiracy by the Congress MPs to disturb communal harmony. "One of the girls was seen crying, which drew the attention of some responsible citizens. When asked, she said she was brought there forcibly and wanted to return home," Mr. Baghel said.

Speaking to *The Hindu* over the phone on Monday evening, the siblings of the two women rejected claims of forcible conversion and said that the women themselves had consented to being taken to Agra for training and jobs.

SC questions judge's action of moving top court after inquiry became 'unpalatable'

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday questioned the conduct of Allahabad High Court judge, Justice Yashwant Varma, saying he had moved the Supreme Court against the in-house inquiry procedure initiated by former Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna only after the outcome of the probe had become "unpalatable" for him.

The report of an in-house inquiry committee of three judges had confirmed the presence of "burnt currency" in a gutted outhouse on Justice Varma's residential premises in New Delhi after a fire in mid-March. The in-house inquiry, appointed by the then Chief Justice Khanna, had recommended his removal. Chief Justice Khanna had forwarded the report to the President and Prime Minister in May, seconding the recommendation of the inquiry panel.

> The Chief Justice of India was not a 'post office' to blindly pass on complaints or allegations to the Parliament
>
> **JUSTICE DIPANKAR DATTA**
> Supreme Court judge

A Bench of Justices Dipankar Datta and A.G. Masih said the in-house procedure was carefully devised through multiple Supreme Court judgments as a mechanism to preserve the institutional integrity and moral vigour of the judiciary. Article 141 of the Constitution made top court judgments binding on all.

Justice Datta said the in-house procedure had been in existence for over 30 years now. Every High Court or Supreme Court judge, including Justice Varma, knew since the time of taking the oath of office that she or he would be subject to a probe if the situation called for it.

The Chief Justice of India was not a "post office" to blindly pass on complaints or allegations to Parliament, Justice Datta said.

The Bench explained the in-house procedure was meant to fill a "yawning gap". It was a procedure in which a CJI-appointed committee held a preliminary inquiry into the allegations in order for the CJI to take an informed decision, and if required, recommend the removal of a judge.

The Bench said Justice Varma, having once submitted to the jurisdiction of the in-house panel, could not turn back and call it "illegal".

"Once the High Court judge has submitted to the in-house inquiry procedure, he has to accept the outcome. His conduct does not inspire. He has challenged the procedure once the outcome became unpalatable," Justice Datta said.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal said if the in-house procedure was so sacrosanct, what was the need for a motion in Parliament. The former alone would suffice to remove a judge. He argued that Articles 124 (4) and (5), along with Article 218, provided a complete mechanism for removal of a judge.

"Any other mechanism is *ultra vires* the Constitution," Mr. Sibal said. He urged the point that Justice Varma had no other place except the Supreme Court to challenge the in-house inquiry and the recommendation to remove him.

The Bench reserved judgment on the petition challenging the validity of the in-house procedure against Justice Varma, and the subsequent recommendation of Chief Justice Khanna (now retired) to remove him.

Remove laws going against leprosy-hit persons: SC

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday called upon the States to summon special one-day Assembly sessions or enact an ordinance to amend discriminatory, derogatory and demeaning provisions in various laws against leprosy-affected persons.

A Bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi said the Centre and States will be doing great service by removing such provisions of law.

Earlier, the court had said it was informed that there might be more than 145 State legislation where such objectionable provisions were still subsisting.

The court urged the States to take remedial action.

CRPF tells HC it did not give NOC to constable

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Munir Ahmed, a constable in the Central Reserve Police Force who was dismissed from service in May for allegedly "concealing his marriage to a Pakistani national", had not been granted a no-objection certificate to go ahead with the wedding, the CRPF told the Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court.

It argued Mr. Ahmed could not defend his actions by relying on service rules framed six decades ago at a time when "Pakistan was not a hostile country". It urged the court to dismiss the petition.

Mr. Ahmed has challenged his dismissal in court, stating that, in accordance with the Central Civil Services Conduct Rules, 1964, he had informed the CRPF authorities of his marriage to his relative, a resident of Sialkot in Pakistan.

Centre notifies single-window system for appointing State DGPs with detailed check lists

S. Vijay Kumar
CHENNAI

The police officer should have minimum residual service of six months from date of vacancy

The Union government has notified a single-window system for appointing Directors-General of Police or the heads of the police force of the States.

The new policy, effective from April 22, comes against the backdrop of several States not following the Supreme Court orders in the Prakash Singh case and the guidelines of the Union Home Ministry.

The single-window system comprises a detailed check list and standard easy-to-use formats for the States to send proposals, facilitating smooth and expeditious empanelment by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), police sources said.

Pointing to major discrepancies in the proposals sent in the past, the Centre fixed responsibility on the States by asking an officer not below the rank of Secretary to the government to certify the minimum tenure of officers sent for empanelment.

The Supreme Court guidelines and the consequent Ministry circulars made it clear that an officer considered for appointment should have a minimum residual service of six months from the date of occurrence of vacancy.

The States should send proposals to the UPSC at least three months before the vacancy arises or the date of superannuation of the incumbent.

T.N. yet to send list

In Tamil Nadu, though the vacancy for the post arises on August 30, 2025, when the incumbent, Shankar Jiwal, is set to retire, the State government is yet to send the proposal. Though two officers are not eligible for the post because they will not have a minimum of six months of service, the Home Department is getting their consent in the willingness form, the sources said.

"The single-window system was notified in the last week of April with a detailed check list and annexures making it easy for the States to follow... eight DGPs in the Level-16 pay matrix will qualify for empanelment, and the UPSC will send back three names – Seema Agrawal, Rajiv Kumar, and Sandeep Rai Rathore – in the order of seniority," a senior police officer told *The Hindu* on Tuesday.

Communicating the single-window system to the States, the Ministry said proposals having major discrepancies would be returned immediately.

At bilateral meeting, India, UAE agree to elevate defence ties

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

The pact is aimed at creating a safe and sustainable maritime environment in the region.

India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening bilateral defence cooperation during the 13th India-UAE Joint Defence Cooperation Committee (JDCC) meeting, held at the Secretary level for the first time, in New Delhi on Wednesday.

The two sides agreed to elevate defence ties to match the growing momentum in areas such as trade, investment, and social relations, the Defence Ministry said in a statement.

The meeting was co-chaired by Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh and the UAE's Under Secretary of Defence, Lieutenant-General Ibrahim Nasser M. Al Alawi, who is leading a high-level defence delegation on a two-day visit to India.

The two sides agreed to enhance military training cooperation and discussed their respective training requirements. India offered to provide customised training courses tailored to the UAE's needs. They also agreed to cooperate on maritime security through real-time information sharing, the Defence Ministry said.

Both countries agreed to pursue joint manufacturing initiatives, including models similar to the collaboration between ICOMM (India) and CARACAL (UAE) for small arms production.

Blocked 1,400 'anti-India' URLs during Operation Sindoor: govt.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Information and Broadcasting Ministry issued directions to block more than 1,400 URLs during Operation Sindoor for circulating "false, misleading, anti-India, and communally sensitive contents, primarily through Pakistan-based accounts", the government said in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

In a written reply to a question from Tejasvi Surya of the BJP over combating disinformation on Operation Sindoor, Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said, "The government found that massive fake news, misinformation and propaganda campaigns were being run, mostly from outside India." Counter-measures were taken accordingly.

"The Government of India held periodic media briefings and kept the media and citizens informed. Details of operations carried out by defence forces were explained along with relevant audiovisuals and satellite imagery," he said.

The PIB's Fact Check Unit monitored social media and news sources in real time to detect fake images, edited videos, misleading narratives, and any manipulated content targeting the operation's objectives, government agencies, or security forces.

No phone call between PM, Trump during Operation Sindoor, says Jaishankar

External Affairs Minister says U.S. Vice-President Vance called Modi to warn him about impending Pakistani attack; Nadda says Congress-led governments lacked the political will to tackle terror

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Countering charges: Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda speaks in the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday. S. Jaishankar, Kiren Rijiju, and Pralhad Joshi are seen. ANI

Union Health Minister J.P. Nadda and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar countered the Opposition's charges during a special discussion on Operation Sindoor in the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday.

While Mr. Nadda said the approach towards terrorism and terrorists had changed since 2014, Mr. Jaishankar maintained that no telephone call had taken place between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and U.S. President Trump between April 22, when the Pahalgam terror attack took place, and June 16.

Mr. Jaishankar said there was no third-party intervention in bringing about a ceasefire with Pakistan during Operation Sindoor. "We gave a message that we are now responding to Pakistani attack and we will keep responding. If that fighting has to stop, Pakistan must make a request and that request must come from the channel of Pakistan's Director-General of Military Operations," he said.

The External Affairs Minister said U.S. Vice-President J.D. Vance had called Mr. Modi to warn him that as per an American assessment, a massive Pakistani attack would take place. "Prime Minister listened and made it very clear that if anything of that sort happens, it [Pakistan] would get a fitting and appropriate response from our side. A few hours later that happened and a fitting and appropriate response also happened, which disabled the entire Pakistani air defence system and rendered all their airfields inoperative," he said.

"I want to make three things clear: there was no leader, nobody in the world that asked India to stop its operations. This is something the Prime Minister also said. There was no linkage of trade in any of these conversations and there was no talk between the Prime Minister and President Trump," he said.

Mr. Nadda alleged that the anti-terrorism policy of the previous Congress-led governments at the Centre had suffered from their eagerness to appease Pakistan. Questioning the Congress stand on counter-terrorism steps, Mr. Nadda asked the Opposition leaders to introspect about their responses to terror attacks when they were in power. "The Army was the same but there was no political will," he said comparing the previous United Progressive Alliance and the current National Democratic Alliance governments.

He said the Union government acted swiftly after the Pahalgam attack. "The Home Minister of our sensitive government was in Kashmir at 5 p.m. on the day of the attack, while the Prime Minister cut short his Saudi Arabia visit," he said, countering the Opposition's charges that the political leadership did not act as responsibly as the military leadership.

"Other than Kashmir, terror attacks across the country have stopped," Mr. Nadda said.

No local has joined terror groups in J&K in the past six months, says Amit Shah

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah speaking during a debate in the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday. PTI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Wednesday that in the past six months, no local had joined any terrorist group in Jammu and Kashmir. Those being killed in security operations in J&K were all foreigners, he said.

He said there should be no doubt that the three terrorists killed during Operation Mahadev on Monday were the ones who carried out the Pahalgam terror attack, as the investigating agencies had matched their photos, and the evidence was backed by forensic reports.

Mr. Shah was speaking on Operation Sindoor in the Rajya Sabha.

Speaking about Operation Mahadev, Mr. Shah said, "It is clear that Lashkar-E-Taiba (LeT) was involved in the attack." He identified the three killed terrorists as Suleman, alias Faizal Jatt, Hamza Afghani and Zibran.

He said questions were being raised about the timing of the killings. "I wanted to kill them the next second [after Pahalgam]. They were hiding in unreachable heights, for 22 days the Central Reserve Police Force jawans who tracked them in the jungle, survived with food sent through drones," he said.

To questions on how the terrorists were entering India, he said, "They have built tunnels [along the border], there are some *nallah*s (waterbodies), one cannot build even a post there, the force of water is such. We are finding technological solutions for this gap."

He said the priority of the Congress was its vote bank and not to end terrorism.

Shells matched

"The day Pahalgam happened, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) collected empty cartridges (from the Baisaran meadow). Forensics was done. After the three terrorists were killed, the rifles found with them were matched with the empty shells. It was established that the same weapons were used. At Pahalgam, 44 cartridges were found to be from M4 Rifle and 25 bullets were fired from the two AK-47s. There is no doubt that these were the terrorists who carried out the attack. Their sketches were made, they were tracked," Mr. Shah said.

He said that the intelligence agencies got the information about the particular location of the terrorists on May 22, a month after Pahalgam.

"Intelligence Bureau and military intelligence did further investigation and on 22 July, a LoRa (communication device) was pinpointed [at Dachigham, where the terrorists were killed]," he said.

He said the terrorists, by killing people in the name of religion, wanted to give a message that Kashmir will never be free of terrorism.

Mr. Shah added, "Peace can only be brought by inducing fear in them (Pakistan), they are not going to mend their ways." Had the attack happened during the tenure of the Congress, it would be sending dossiers and arranging dialogues with the neighbouring country, he said.

YSRCP govt. did not pay A.P.'s share of crop insurance: Minister

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna (PMFBY), the crop insurance scheme of the Union Government, had to be revamped owing to the non-cooperation of certain State governments, particularly the erstwhile YSRCP-led government in Andhra Pradesh, Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday.

Mr. Chouhan said the then Andhra Pradesh government had failed to pay the State's share of the premium for the insurance for three years.

Responding to a question from an MP from Rajasthan, Hanuman Jeniwal, Mr. Chouhan said the Centre had mandated that farmers' claims would be paid in 21 days.

"Some States announced that they would pay the farmer insurance premium themselves. However, Andhra Pradesh didn't contribute the State's share towards premium, due to which farmers suffered and couldn't get insurance," he said.

Considering this experience, we modified the policy and decided to pay its share of insurance even if the State government does not pay, he said.

On Wednesday, he announced that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will release the 20th instalment of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-Kisan) on Saturday.

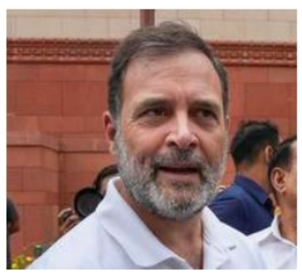
Cong. steps up attack on PM for 'refusing to unequivocally' deny Trump's ceasefire claims

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi asserted that no world leader had asked India to stop Operation Sindoor, the Congress on Wednesday stepped up its offensive against Mr. Modi for "refusing to unequivocally" deny U.S. President Donald Trump's claims that he had brought about a ceasefire between India and Pakistan.

Mr. Modi was on a "very weak wicket and has much to cover up" after the U.S. President had claimed "30 times" that he had stopped the war , the party said.

The Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, who on Tuesday challenged the Prime Minister to say on the floor of the House that Mr. Trump was lying, asserted that he could not do so.



> It is obvious the Prime Minister has not said that Trump is lying. If the PM says it, then he [Mr. Trump] will say openly and will lay bare the truth
>
> **RAHUL GANDHI**
> Congress leader

"It is obvious the Prime Minister has not said that Trump is lying. It is obvious what has happened. Everyone knows he is not able to say it. That is the reality. If the Prime Minister says it, then he [Mr. Trump] will say openly and will lay bare the truth. So, that is why the Prime Minister is not able to say anything," Mr. Gandhi said on Mr. Trump's latest statement.

Speaking to pressperson on Tuesday, Mr. Trump repeated his claim that he had stopped the conflict between India and Pakistan.

Mr. Gandhi said the American President was making the remarks to pressure the Indian government on the trade deal. "Now you see what kind of trade deal happens," he told pressperson in Parliament complex.

"Our policy has been that we have never accepted any sort of mediation by a third party in negotiations and it is unacceptable to us even today. Why did they agree [to the ceasefire]? What were the reasons? They should tell the country," Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge said.

'Didn't name Trump'

"He (Modi) did not even take Trump's name even once in his two-hour speech. Modi*ji* doesn't have the courage to say that 'Trump is lying and we shall not tolerate such nonsense'. They don't have the courage to say this. He should have condemned Trump's remarks and said that he is trying to distort the image of the country," he added.

Congress general secretary in charge of communications Jairam Ramesh tagged a video of Mr. Trump on his X handle. "Why is the PM simply refusing to unequivocally and categorically deny what his good friend Donald Trump has now said 30 times in the U.S., Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and the U.K.? The answer is clear. Mr. Narendra Modi is on a very weak wicket and has much to cover up," he said.

"If you hear the words used by the Prime Minister and the External Affairs Minister carefully, they are vague. They should say it directly," party leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said.

BJP MP raises demand for Bharat Ratna to Dalai Lama

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Bharatiya Janata Party MP from Arunachal Pradesh Tapir Gao on Wednesday asked the Centre to confer India's highest civilian honour, the Bharat Ratna, on the Dalai Lama, the spiritual head of Tibetan Buddhists.

He raised the issue during Zero Hour in the Lok Sabha, where he described the Dalai Lama as a "messenger of non-violence and compassion".

"Today, the Dalai Lama is not just a religious figure but also a symbol of peace across the world. His teachings have shaped generations and he deserves the Bharat Ratna," the BJP MP said.

Opposition walks out of RS over Modi's absence during conclusion of debate on Operation Sindoor

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Major outcry: Opposition MPs walking out of the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday in protest against the Prime Minister's absence. ANI

Opposition parties staged a walkout in the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday evening, just as Union Minister Amit Shah rose to speak in conclusion of the debate on Operation Sindoor in the Upper House, in protest against Prime Minister Narendra Modi's absence.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said that it was an insult to the Upper House that the Prime Minister, despite being in Parliament, refused to come.

"We had hoped that after 16 hours of debate in this House, where several questions were raised, many of which were directed at the Prime Minister, that he would make an appearance in the House. Prime Minister's absence in the House, even though he is present here (in Parliament), is an insult to this house," Mr. Kharge said.

Deputy Chairman Harvinash said that the rules allowed the government to decide on who should respond to the debate, and this was conveyed during the Business Advisory Committee Meeting of the Upper House. When Mr. Shah rose to speak, the Opposition members walked towards the front row, chanting, "Where is PM?"

All Opposition parties unanimously questioned the lack of an allegedly direct response from the government on U.S. President Donald Trump's repeated claims on brokering peace between India and Pakistan. RJD MP Manoj Kumar Jha demanded that the House move a resolution condemning Mr. Trump's remarks. "I propose that a resolution be moved, saying that this House unilaterally condemns the repeated statement of American President Donald Trump and declares him to be the greatest liar of the century," he said.

CPI(M) MP John Brittas pointed out that Mr. Modi spoke for over 100 minutes in the Lok Sabha but made no reference to Mr. Trump. "Is he scared? A comedian turned President [Volodymyr Zelenskyy], while he was in the White House, had the guts to speak up to Mr. Trump, but our Prime Minister was laughing with him while the U.S. was poking us with tariffs," he said.

Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut questioned why India declared a ceasefire "despite having the upper hand".

Samajwadi Party MP Javed Ali Khan said that Defence Minister Rajnath Singh listed questions that Opposition parties should have asked of the government, but his Ministry was running away from answering any questions.

CPI MP P. Sandosh Kumar said that after Operation Sindoor, the government was now on "Operation Silence".

Lok Sabha passes resolution to extend President's Rule in Manipur for six more months

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Lok Sabha on Wednesday passed a Statutory Resolution to extend President's Rule in Manipur for six more months, with Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai asserting that peace and normalcy was returning to the State and President's Rule was that found necessary to ensure this continued.

For the extension to come into effect, the Rajya Sabha will also be required to pass the resolution

For the extension of President's Rule to come into effect, the Rajya Sabha will also be required to pass the resolution. A notice for this resolution was submitted in the Rajya Sabha last week. Manipur was placed under President's Rule in February after N. Biren Singh stepped down as Chief Minister, nearly two years after the ethnic conflict began in the State between the valley-based Meitei community and the hills-based Scheduled Tribe Kuki-Zo group of communities.

While replying to the discussion on the Statutory Resolution in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday, Mr. Rai said that only one incident of violence with one death had been reported in the State in the last eight months, and none in the last four. He said that since the imposition of President's Rule, over 2,500 weapons, 1,900 explosives, and 30,000 rounds of ammunition had been recovered.

During the discussion, Inner Manipur MP A. Bimol Akoijam of the Congress objected to extending President's Rule, and called for dissolution of the Assembly so that fresh election could be held and a government formed with the mandate of the people.

INBRIEF

Four killed in rain-related incidents in Ladakh, J&K

Two soldiers, including a Lieutenant Colonel and two teachers, were killed in separate incidents of shooting stones and flash floods in Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh as the region witnessed a wet spell on Wednesday. An Army spokesperson said that two soldiers died when an Army vehicle was hit by a boulder during a convoy movement between Durbuk to Chongtash around 11:30 a.m. Two teachers, residents of Udhampur district of Jammu and Kashmir, were killed in flash floods triggered by intermittent rains, officials said. Meanwhile, the Amarnath yatra was suspended for the day due to rains.

Mob storms Kargil veteran's home; asks citizenship proof

The family of Kargil war veteran Hakimuddin Shaikh has alleged that the police are refusing to register an FIR against unidentified persons, who, along with police in plainclothes, barged into their home in Pune. In an appeal to the police, the family claimed that about 70 men, including members from the Bajrang Dal and the Vishwa Hindu Parishad, barged into their house on Saturday night and demanded proof of their citizenship. "The men took us to the police station where we were held till 2 p.m.," said Shamsaad Shaikh (35), a family member. "We requested the police to book the accused, but it was dismissed," he said in the appeal.

Woman arrested for spreading al-Qaeda propaganda online

Gujarat Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) on Wednesday arrested Shama Parveen Ansari from Bengaluru for allegedly amplifying digital propaganda of the al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS), officials said. Investigators allege she was in contact with Pakistani operatives via phone and email, and used social media platforms to promote content linked to the AQIS. According to the ATS, Ansari managed two Facebook pages and an Instagram account with a combined audience of over 10,000 followers. In these channels, she allegedly posted content calling for an "armed revolution" against the Centre, and sought to provoke communal discord.

Assam actor Nandini Kashyap arrested in hit-and-run case

The Assam Police, on Wednesday, arrested Assamese theatre and film actor Nandini Kashyap in connection with a hit-and-run incident that killed a 21-year-old man. The police said she was arrested more than seven hours after Samiul Haque, the victim, died of injuries on Tuesday. He was a student of Nalbari Polytechnic College and a temporary employee of Guwahati Municipal Corporation. The accident happened on the intervening night of July 25 and 26 in the Dakhingaon area. Deputy Commissioner of Police (Traffic) Jayanta Sarathi Borah said charges under four sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita had been slapped against Kashyap.

DGCA audit finds 19 critical safety breaches by Air India

Regulator says high number of findings is normal and reflects scale of operations, not any unusual lapse; with 300 planes, the airline group had 74 level-2 findings; IndiGo with 419 aircraft had 23

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

An audit by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) over the past year identified 19 findings against Air India Group airlines that needed immediate corrective action, while all other carriers recorded zero findings in this category. The regulator, though, claimed that a high number of audit observations was "entirely normal".

The data released by the DGCA on Wednesday showed that its audit revealed 10 "level-1" findings against Vistara, seven against Air India, and two against Air India Express, all of which are part of the Air India Group. All other airlines recorded zero observations in this category.

In the level-2 category of findings too, there were 74 observations against the three Air India Group airlines. IndiGo had 23 and SpiceJet 14 findings.

The DGCA says its audit processes are robust and that the findings are a testament to active regulatory oversight. FILE PHOTO

There were 10 'level-1' observations against Vistara, seven against Air India, two against Air India Express

Violations that fall under the level-1 category require immediate corrective action, while level-2 findings pertain to non-compliance with regulatory requirements and procedural lapses.

For a comparison of scale of various airlines, IndiGo has 419 aircraft in its fleet, Air India has nearly 300 aircraft, and SpiceJet 19 aircraft in service. Smaller regional carriers like Star Air (nine aircraft) recorded 41 level-2 findings, and Alliance Air (21 aircraft) 57 findings. Cargo operator Quikjet (two aircraft), which is a partner for e-commerce giant Amazon, had 35 observations against it.

The DGCA though sought to address questions of safety standards at various airlines and said in a statement, "For airlines with extensive operations and large fleet sizes, a higher number of audit findings is entirely normal. The quantum and scale of their activities mean that such observations reflect the breadth and depth of their operations rather than any unusual lapse." It added that globally too aviation regulators "routinely" encounter similar patterns with major airlines.

With concerns about a hit in travel sentiment among passengers, the DGCA attempted to assuage the concerns and said, "The DGCA reassures the travelling public that these processes are robust and that the presence of such findings is a testament to active regulatory oversight."

Opposition demands explanation from PM over Trump's tariff

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Hours after U.S. President Donald Trump announced that a 25% tariff and a penalty would be levied on India, the Opposition parties on Wednesday targeted the Narendra Modi government's diplomacy.

The Congress said Prime Minister Narendra Modi should explain how his government planned on navigating the "perilous situation".

"After the U.S. has slapped India with 25% tariffs, will the PM now grow a spine and stand up to Trump? By staying silent on Trump's ceasefire statements and his warmth towards Pakistan Army Chief Asim Munir, PM Modi made the grave miscalculation of trying to appease Trump in the hope that India will receive a favourable trade deal," Congress general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal said in a post on X.

"This completely exposes how the Modi government has compromised our national security and sovereignty by linking it to trade. We demand a clear explanation from the PM himself on how the Government plans to navigate this perilous situation they have landed us in," he said.

Communist Party of India general secretary D. Raja, in a post on X, said Mr. Trump had spoken 30 times about mediating the ceasefire between India and Pakistan using trade as leverage, and yet the BJP remained silent. "Trump is targeting India politically, economically, and morally. And the Prime Minister is not being truthful, neither to the people nor to Parliament. When the aggressor is rewarded with complicit silence, and the Opposition is silenced for asking valid questions, this isn't diplomacy but disgrace," he said.

"The PM must speak up! It's time India regains its political autonomy, economic sovereignty, and moral authority by standing tall and pursuing an independent foreign policy," he added.

Amendments to RTI Act dilute crucial rights, say Press bodies and activists

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

Media professionals' representatives, along with the National Campaign for the People's Right to Information (NCPRI), said on Wednesday that the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act, 2023 and its draft rules were "extremely problematic" and would erode the right to information and did not protect journalists from identifying people whose wrongdoing they uncover.

The NCPRI has been protesting against the DPDP Act's dilution of Section 8(1)(j) of the Right to Information Act, 2005 for nearly two years, pointing out the amendment, inserted into the very end of the 2023 data privacy law, would significantly increase the ambit of information that can be refused to seekers.

Advocate Prashant Bhushan, Sangeeta Barooah Pisharoty, and others at a press conference on DPDP Act. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

'Undo amendment'

Along the way, starting this February, the collective roped in almost two dozen press bodies around the country, including the Press Club of India (PCI), and corresponding press clubs in most State capitals. The "Roll Back RTI Amendments Campaign" is urging the Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology to undo the RTI Act's amendment, accusing the government of "diluting crucial rights".

Representatives of the Press bodies, including the PCI and the DIGIPUB Foundation, the latter representing many digital-only outlets, met with Union IT Secretary S. Krishnan earlier this month. Mr. Krishnan assured them the Act would not hamstring their work, said PCI vice-president Sangeeta Barooah Pisharoty, who was present at the meeting. Mr. Krishnan said Union IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw would meet the group, but no date has been specified.

Justice A.P. Shah (retd.), a former Chairperson of the Law Commission, wrote to the Attorney-General that the RTI Act's amendment would be a "seismic shift in India's transparency framework for the worse".

Delhi HC asks if govt. has power to order cuts in *Udaipur Files*

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday asked the Centre if it had the authority to pass an order directing six cuts in the film *Udaipur Files-Kanhaiya Lal Tailor Murder* under the government's revision powers.

"You have to exercise the powers within the four corners of the statute. You can't go beyond that," a Bench of Chief Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela said.

The court posed the question after being informed that the Centre, while exercising its revision powers under the Cinematograph Act, had suggested six cuts to the producers of the movie, in addition to a disclaimer.

The court was also informed that the film has been re-certified, but not issued to the producers, because the matter is pending in the High Court.

The court was hearing a plea by Mohammed Javed,

The Centre had suggested six cuts, in addition to a disclaimer, to the film *Udaipur Files*.

one of the accused in the Kanhaiya Lal murder case, objecting to the release of the film on the ground that it would prejudice his case during the trial.

Senior advocate Maneka Guruswamy, representing Mr. Javed, submitted that six witnesses have been examined till now in the case and 160 witnesses remain.

Kanhaiya Lal, an Udaipur-based tailor in Rajasthan, was murdered in 2022, allegedly by Mohammad Riyaz and Mohammad Ghous, for sharing a social media post in support of former BJP leader Nupur Sharma after her controversial comments on Prophet Muhammed.

Badri Narayan Tiwari to take over as TISS V-C: Centre

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Nearly seven months after the Union Education Ministry shortlisted candidates for the post, Badri Narayan Tiwari has been appointed Vice-Chancellor of the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS).

The Ministry issued an order confirming Professor Tiwari's appointment on Wednesday.

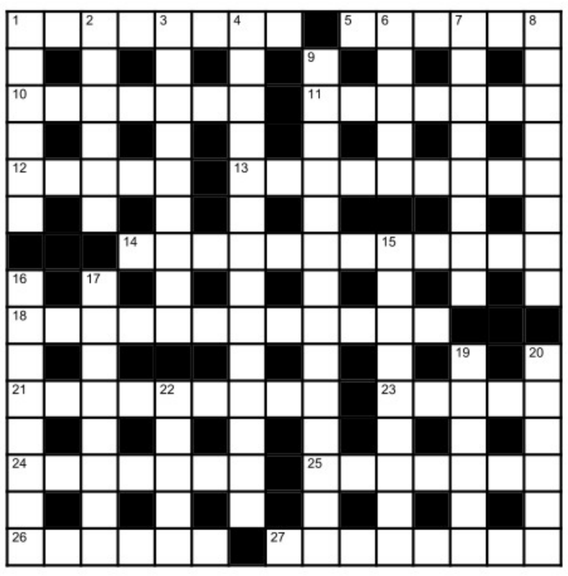
Professor Tiwari, a cultural anthropologist and social historian, is the first Vice-Chancellor to be appointed by the Ministry under its new regulations. TISS now comes under the Union government's purview. The University Grants Commission's rules state that the Centre will appoint the heads of deemed-to-be universities receiving over 50% of their funding from the government. He was formerly heading the Govind Ballabh Pant Social Science Institute in Prayagraj. He holds an MA in modern history and a Ph.D., from Allahabad University.

TH CROSSWORD + 14551

(set by Arden)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Workers get in, complain about spindles (8)
5 Bit of a methodical person - brings back calm (6)
10 Rich widow's advice on taking a chance (7)
11 A hybrid crop - it could bear fruit (7)
12 Long time for horse to enter - prod it (3,2)
13 Watchdog for thousand American friends in the country (9)
14 Digital entertainment - a special gift (6,6)
18 Wine and ale can do perhaps in this country (3,9)
21 Against history - only a course (9)
23 New area can be costly (5)
24 It helps some people's aspirations (7)
25 Repeating it - time not to lose heart (7)
26 Look, it's somewhat wavering and erratic (6)
27 Serial killer's last known address? (5,3)

Down

1 Not happy about keeping an animal inside lower walls (6)
2 Refuse to allow comedian to enter Vatican, perhaps (6)
3 Spy right inside in a country... (9)
4 ...besides our fearsome dog barking (3,4,7)
6 Persuaded a bit - order ultimately came from the South (5)
7 Coppers order to surrender finally, but one is cool as they say (8)
8 Go off with boyfriend outside school (8)
9 Heart of a Scot, in short, is poisonous (6,8)
15 Lamenting about alliance (9)
16 Making some dough and wanting to announce it (8)
17 Start with an issue about the terrible women (6,2)
19 Some money the church returned - that's sweet (6)
20 Grant is in Paris, covered by missile launcher (6)
22 Cry over endless beat (5)

SUDOKU

			2		4	1	8	
3								
	7			1		9	3	
			5	2		3		8
1								4
6		5		7	3			
	3	2		6			4	
								9
	4	1	9		7			

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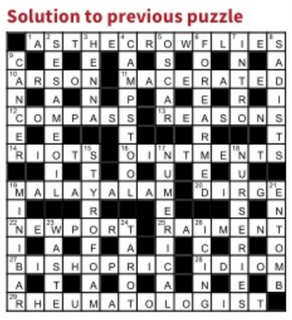
DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle



Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

5	6	9	4	7	8	3	1	2
1	2	8	3	6	5	7	4	9
7	4	3	9	1	2	6	5	8
4	5	1	8	9	7	2	6	3
2	9	6	5	3	4	8	7	1
8	3	7	1	2	6	4	9	5
9	8	5	7	4	3	1	2	6
3	7	2	6	5	1	9	8	4
6	1	4	2	8	9	5	3	7

FAITH

Tulsidas' devotion

Tulsidas was one of the greatest transformational influences in the devotional movement. A gifted poet, two events were game changers in his life, said Dr. Sudha Seshayyan. First, his early childhood was a harrowing one. He himself later wrote, "None cared for Tulsi, why would one? Tulsi was not worth e'en a pice. But Rama who hearkens to the poor made Tulsi of fabulous price. At every door who begged for food, now gets respect from mighty kings." (Tulsidas, Dohavali, 108-109).

The second came about because of his wife Ratnavali. Extremely attached to her due to his traumatic childhood, he hovered over her. Once, when she left to spend a few days with her parents, he reached there the same evening. Ashamed of his begging her to return home, she said, "Shame on you; cursed is such love; why are so attached to me? Instead, if you seek Rama, fulfilment will be yours." She game him the impetus to dedicate himself to God.

His quest for communion with God took him across the country. Finally, at Varanasi, he began to compose *Ramcharitmanas* in Sanskrit. Every day, after he composed it, something would go wrong with the manuscript. This happened for many days, before Kasi Viswanatha appeared before him and instructed him to write his Rama charita in Avadhi, so that his work would reach the common man. When he presented the *Ramcharitmanas*, the scholars derided him for not composing in Sanskrit. The manuscript was placed at the bottom of a pile of other works and left in the sanctum of Viswanatha. The next morning, Tuslidas' work was on top of the pile, with a few flowers placed on them, in divine benediction.

INBRIEF

Rupee slides steepest in over 3 years on U.S. tariff jitters

The rupee plunged 89 paise – its steepest single-day fall in over three years – and closed at an all-time low of 87.80 against the U.S. dollar on Wednesday after America announced a sweeping 25% tariff on Indian imports in the absence of a trade deal ahead of the August 1 deadline. Forex traders said month-end dollar demand from importers and sustained foreign fund outflows also weighed on the local unit. On Tuesday, the rupee closed at 86.91 against the U.S. dollar. PTI

Schneider Electric to acquire Temasek's 35% stake for €5.5 bn

Schneider Electric on Wednesday said it will acquire the remaining 35% stake of Schneider Electric India from Temasek for a cash consideration of €5.5 billion. The transaction is subject to customary closing conditions, including the receipt of required regulatory approvals such as from the Competition Commission of India, and is expected to close in the coming quarters, Schneider Electric said in a statement. PTI

Bharat Forge to set up ring mill to make aerospace parts

Bharat Forge Ltd., an advanced forging and precision engineering company, has announced to set up an advanced ring mill dedicated to aerospace applications, following the signing of contracts with Pratt & Whitney, Canada for the supply of aerospace components. The ring mill will be set up as part of the company's ongoing expansion of aerospace manufacturing capabilities. The facility is designed to produce high performance aerospace products, it said.

'New GDP series to be released on Feb. 27, IIP and CPI to follow'

Apart from these updates, MoSPI is also launching two surveys to study how, and how much Indian households spend on travel, tourism: Garg

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

> For the new CPI series, MoSPI is expanding its approach by exploring alternative data sources such as online platforms for airfare, rail fare
>
> **SAURABH GARG,** Secretary, MoSPI

The next few years will see a flurry of activity for the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), with several updated series of data – such as for Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Index of Industrial Production (IIP), and Consumer Price Index (CPI) – set to be released next year, said MoSPI Secretary Saurabh Garg.

Apart from these updates, MoSPI is also in the process of launching two new surveys, both aimed at measuring how and how much Indian households spend on travel and tourism, apart from an annual survey of service sector enterprises, which would provide granular data on the incorporated services sector in India, Mr. Garg told *The Hindu* in an interview.

The new GDP series with a base year of 2022-23 – updated from the previous base year of 2011-12 – will be released on February 27, 2026.

The new IIP series, also with an updated base year of 2022-23, will be released April 2026 onwards, and the new Consumer Price Index updated to a base year of 2024 will be released in the first quarter of the next financial year, Mr. Garg added. The IIP currently has a base year of 2011-12 and the CPI of 2012.

Further, the next Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (HCES) will be held in 2027-28, and will now be held every three years instead of the earlier five-year interval.

Tourism mapping

"MoSPI has launched two new surveys – the National Household Travel Survey (NHTS) and Domestic Tourism Expenditure Survey (DTES) – in July 2025," Mr. Garg said.

The purpose of the NHTS is to assess the spatial origin-destination matrix for different transportation modes and factors that influence the mode, destination choice, and the price elasticity of travel demand by mode.

The DTES, on the other hand, will capture details such as expenditure on tourism, purpose of the trip, mode of transport, accommodation used during the trip, final destination within the country, use of various tourism-specific products and services for the trip, etc.

For the new CPI series, MoSPI is expanding its approach by exploring alternative data sources such as online platforms for airfare, rail fare, over-the-top (OTT) platforms and administrative records for price data of petrol, diesel and LPG, he added.

In addition, he said MoSPI is also exploring the use of scanner data and web scraping to enhance the accuracy, efficiency and comprehensiveness of price data collection.

"The possibility of collecting price data from e-commerce websites is also being considered," he added.

From January 2026, MoSPI is planning to start the Annual Survey of Service Sector Enterprises (ASSSE), which would measure the formal services sector along the lines of the Annual Survey of Industries.

SEBI upholds interim order against Gensol

Ashokamithran T
MUMBAI

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on Wednesday upheld the directions in its interim order against Gensol Engineering, noting that the promoters had failed to rebut the findings effectively.

The promoters of the company, Anmol Singh Jaggi and Puneet Singh Jaggi, had made submissions to the regulator denying the findings and provided reasons for the same.

However, they did not provide any supporting evidence for denial of the findings in the interim order, SEBI observed.

Mr. Puneet Jaggi had claimed that he was only a nominal director and was just signing documents for compliance.

"As Puneet Singh Jaggi appears to also be a direct beneficiary of funds diverted from Gensol through Wellray, his contention that he was not involved in the affairs of Gensol cannot be taken at face value. Accordingly, I am not inclined to accept the submissions of Puneet Singh Jaggi at this stage. However, the investigating authority in this matter shall look into this aspect and examine whether Puneet Singh Jaggi had any active role in the violations or not," Kamlesh C. Varshney, wholetime member of SEBI said in the confirmatory order.

On day one, NSDL IPO sees strong demand from employees

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Retail investors bid 1.87 times the shares earmarked for them; QIBs remained tepid

On the first day of NSDL IPO's bidding, employees demanded the most of the quota of shares allocated for them while qualified institutional buyers (QIB) showed tepid demand.

The listing-bound depository demanded 3.68 times the 85,000 shares that were reserved for bidding for employees of NSDL. QIBs demanded just 0.84 times the allocated one crore shares. Retail investors, however, displayed enthusiasm, bidding 1.87 times the shares earmarked for them. The only other category that had demand stronger than that of employee reservation was the sub category of non institutional investors whose bid amount was between ₹2 lakh and ₹10 lakh, which was 3.97 times the number of shares they were allowed to bid.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	WEDNESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	81,482	0.18
US Dollar	87.80	-1.02
Gold	98,520	0.71
Brent oil	73.23	3.03

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2532.90	-15.00
Adani Ports	1394.00	-1.90
Apollo Hosp	7450.00	-6.00
Asian Paints	2415.80	14.30
Axis Bank	1073.30	9.10
Bajaj Auto	8043.50	-84.00
Bajaj Finserv	1959.80	-12.80
Bajaj Finance	884.85	-1.70
Bharat Elec	386.50	-1.75
Bharti Airtel	1932.60	14.30
Cipla	1559.40	-14.60
Coal India	379.90	-3.75
Dr Reddys Lab	1292.10	-7.70
Eicher Motors	5481.00	10.50
Eternal Ltd.	303.45	-3.10
Grasim Ind	2758.60	15.60
HCL Tech	1476.50	4.10
HDFC Bank	2025.80	4.20
HDFC Life	757.45	1.10
Hero MotoCorp	4251.30	-73.90
Hindalco	688.80	-3.90
Hind Unilever	2437.40	-16.20
ICICI Bank	1482.40	-3.80
IndusInd Bank	801.90	-6.30
Infosys	1519.00	5.30
ITC	407.60	-0.85
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	320.30	-0.80
JSW Steel	1037.90	3.00
Kotak Bank	1959.70	-13.00
L&T	3665.10	169.50
M&M	3208.90	9.50
Maruti Suzuki	12618.00	149.00
NestleIndia	2231.50	7.80
NTPC	338.80	4.20
ONGC	241.81	0.37
PowerGrid Corp	288.95	-4.15
Reliance Ind	1410.10	-7.00
SBI Life	1839.10	5.70
State Bank	801.65	2.45
Shriram Finance Ltd.	632.80	-5.55
Sun Pharma	1733.80	23.30
TataConsumerProduct	1073.10	11.50
Tata Motors	668.45	-23.90
Tata Steel	161.36	-0.33
TCS	3053.60	-2.40
Tech Mahindra	1463.20	9.40
Titan	3376.50	-2.70
Trent Ltd.	5043.50	42.00
UltraTech Cement	12268.00	47.00
Wipro	250.20	-1.60

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on July 30

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	87.22	87.54
Euro	99.98	100.35
British Pound	115.96	116.39
Japanese Yen (100)	58.54	58.75
Chinese Yuan	12.13	12.18
Swiss Franc	107.37	107.77
Singapore Dollar	67.42	67.68
Canadian Dollar	63.15	63.38
Malaysian Ringitt	20.55	20.67
Australian Dollar	56.30	56.51

Source:Indian Bank

M&M Q1 net profit rises 24% to ₹4,083 crore

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Despite several macroeconomic challenges, including geopolitical disruptions, Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. (M&M) reported first-quarter consolidated net profit rose 24% year-on-year to ₹4,083 crore while consolidated revenue grew 22% to ₹45,529 crore.

Director passes away

M&M also announced the demise of T. N. Manoharan, lead independent director. He was first appointed as an independent director on November 11, 2016 and became lead independent director with effect from August 8, 2024.

SIDBI survey shows improving MSME capacity utilisation

The Hindu Bureau
COIMBATORE

Access to finance also improved, the survey showed.

Majority of the Micro, Small and Medium-scale Enterprises (MSMEs) in the manufacturing and service sectors have seen an improvement in capacity utilisation in the first quarter of 2025-2026 compared with the previous quarter.

According to the third edition of the "MSME Outlook Survey" released by the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) on Wednesday capturing the perspectives of 1,200 MSMEs operating across manufacturing, services, and trading sectors, nearly a fifth of the respondents reported above normal capacity utilisation level for both manufacturing and services enterprises.

This momentum is expected to continue, with nearly 29% of respondents projecting an increase in capacity utilisation in the next year, according to the SIDBI survey.

HC closes case as Nayara says MS restored services

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Nayara Energy informed the Delhi High Court Microsoft restored cloud services, following which the court allowed the company to withdraw its petition.

The court granted liberty to Nayara to approach it again should Microsoft take similar action in the future. Nayara approached the court after being suddenly locked out of its Microsoft account, disrupting vitall business operations.

Meanwhile, *Reuters* said three vessels laden with oil products from Nayara have yet to discharge cargoes due to new EU sanctions on the Russia-backed refiner, as per data and sources.

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY
No.CE/PRD/ACCTS-14/25/295, dtd. 25.07.2025
e-TENDER CALL NOTICE
Name of the work : Construction of Compound Wall, drain adjacent to PMR and along RRS-I&II Railway Tracks at MCHP area (Balance work).
Estimated Cost : Rs.2,83,44,700.94.
Last Date & time of submission : 16.08.2025 up to 17:00 Hrs.
Refer our website for details : eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app
Executive Engineer, PRD, PPA
PPA/PR/31/2025-2026, dt.30/07/2025

ICAR-INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SPICES RESEARCH
(Indian Council of Agricultural Research)
Post Bag No: 1701, Marikunnu Post, Kozhikode -673 012 Ph: 0495 - 2731410
F.No.7/40/2025-Estt Dated: 29.07.2025
Vacancy for **National Level Walk-in Test and Interview** for selection of **Project Associate-I** under DBT Project at ICAR-Indian Institute of Spices Research, Kozhikode
Visit www.spices.res.in/jobs for details
Sd/- **Head of Office** for Director

SRI VENKATESWARA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES-TIRUPATI
(A University established by an Act of A.P. State Legislature)
TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS
Admission Notification (2025-26)
Applications are invited from the eligible candidates at National Level for the **Academic Year 2025-26** for admission into the following courses:
(1) M.Sc. Nursing (2) MPT (3) M.Sc. Allied Health Sciences (4) M.Sc. Clinical Virology (5) M.Sc. Clinical Psychology and (6) Post Basic Dip. in Nursing Programmes.
NOTE : The vacancies are offered after filling the candidates from AP State. For more details and application forms visit **https://svimstpt.ap.nic.in.** **Last Date for receipt of application is 25-08-2025.**
DONATE LIBERALLY TO "SRI BALAJI AROGYA VARAPRASADINI SCHEME" OR "GENERAL DONATION TO THE DIRECTOR SVIMS ACCOUNT"
Roc.No.AS/36/ADMISSIONS/SVIMS/2025, Dated:28-07-2025 **Sd/- DIRECTOR-CUM-V.C.**

राष्ट्रीय पृथ्वी विज्ञान अध्ययन केंद्र
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR EARTH SCIENCE STUDIES
NCESS
पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt. of India
Akkulam, Thiruvananthapuram -11
No: NCESS/P&GA/9424/13/2025 Date : 29.07.2025
RECRUITMENT
NCESS invites online applications from eligible Indian citizens for appointment to the posts of **Project Associate I, Consultant Engineer (Civil)** and **Senior Project Associate** on contract basis with tenure upto 31.03.2026. Please visit website for details. Further changes, if any, will be notified through website only.
Website: www.ncess.gov.in/Phone:0471-2511500.
Sd/ Head, Administration (i/c), NCESS

भारत सरकार / Government of India
अंतरिक्ष विभाग / Department of Space
भारतीय अंतरिक्ष विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान
Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology
[वि.अ.आयोग अधिनियम 1956 की धारा 3 के अधीन मानित विश्वविद्यालय घोषित]
[Declared as Deemed to be University under Sec.3 of the UGC Act 1956]
वलियमला पोस्ट Valiamala PO, तिरुवनंतपुरम Thiruvananthapuram - 695 547
दूरभाष / Phone:0471-2568603, ई – मेल / E-mail: recruitment@iist.ac.in
संविदा के आधार पर स्थानन अधिकारी के लिए ऑनलाइन आवेदन
Online Applications for Placement Officer on Contract
भारतीय अंतरिक्ष विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईएसटी) संविदा के आधार पर स्थानन अधिकारी की रिक्ति भरने हेतु आवेदन आमंत्रित करता है।
Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST) invites applications for Placement Officer on contract.
ऑनलाइन रुप से आवेदन पत्र प्रस्तुत करने की सुविधा 31.07.2025 से 14.08.2025 तक (1700hrs बजे तक) उपलब्ध होगी। Facility for online submission of application will be available from 31.07.2025 to 14.08.2025.
विस्तृत विज्ञापन और ऑनलाइन आवेदन प्रस्तुत करने के लिए कृपया हमारी वेबसाइट देखें:
For detailed advertisement and submitting online application, please visit our website: https://www.iist.ac.in/career2.
विज्ञापन सं. Advt. No: IIST/ Admn/RMT/07/02/2025, dated 31.07.2025

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Storm Water Drain, South Zone BBMP, 9th Floor, Shopping Complex, Jayanagara 4th Block, Bengaluru - 560 011
No: EE/SWD/South/TEND/01/2025-26 Date: 30.07.2025
INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
TWO COVER SYSTEM (Standard Tender Document KW-4)
(Through **GOK** KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** only)
The Executive Engineer, SWD-South Zone, BBMP Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible contractors registered in Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike or equivalent registration with CPWD/KPWD/Railways/MES/National Highway or any State Government Organizations for the construction of works detailed in the table below.

Name of the work
Construction of flood protection structures to SWD including RCC retaining walls, Water retention structures, Nature based solution structures/Bridges and culverts under Karnataka Water Security and Resilience Programme (KWSRP) with externally funded project (World Bank) in **South zone including KVP Package-01".** (23 Works) **Approx. Value of Works: ₹.67.41 Crores (Excluding GST) EMD Amount: ₹.1,00,000/- Through KPP Portal and ₹.66,41,000/- through BG in favour of EE (SWD-South Zone)**

Calendar of Events : (1) Pre-Bid Meeting is on **18.08.2025** at **4:00** pm. (2) Last Date for Receipt of the Tenders is on **01.09.2025** upto **5:30** pm. (3) Date of Opening of the Bid is on **02.09.2025** by **5:30** pm or next working day. (4) Date of Opening of the Financial Bid Will be intimated to technically qualified contractor successful bidder in KPP portal.
Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Storm Water Drain, South Zone

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS-TIRUPATI
MARKETING DEPARTMENT **e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE**
e-Tenders are invited for procurement and supply of the items **(1)** 2,70,000 Kgs of Dried Grapes, **(2)** 1,20,000 Kgs of Cashew Splits (3) 600 Cans of Dettol (5 ltrs each), to the Marketing Department, T.T.Devasthanams,. For Tender notice and tender details log on to the web site **http://www.tirumala.org** and **https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in.** For further details contact phone numbers: **0877-2264079, 2264555**, FAX No: **0877-2264554**.
TTD-40021/10/2025-PRO SEC (Adv.No.149) Date:30-07-2025 **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

milma **Kerala Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd.**
Milma Bhavan, Pattom P.O, Thiruvananthapuram-695004
Phone: 0471 2786438, 436 & 429, e-mail: qc@milma.com
Expression of Interest for Supply of Packaged Dairy & RTS Beverages
KCMMF Ltd. invites EOI from reputed manufacturers for the supply of Packaged Dairy based/RTS beverages in Tetra Packs/ Metal Cans/ Pet Bottles.
For more details visit: www.milma.com./ or scan QR for complete details.
Submission Deadline :10.08.2025, Queries: qc@milma.com
30.07.2025 **sd/- Managing Director**

GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN
OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT CUM MEMBER SECRETARY, RAJASTHAN MEDICARE RELIEF SOCIETY, SAWAI MAN SINGH HOSPITAL, JAIPUR
[Sawai Man Singh Road, Tonk Road, Jaipur, Rajasthan 302 004]
{Phone 0141-2518308, 2518268}
(Email-ms.smshospital@gmail.com, cms.smshospital@gmail.com)
No.F.4()/Store/SMS/MH/2025/1611 dated 17/7/25
Notice Inviting Bid
Bids for the two year rate contract for the procurement of Cochlear Impants are invited from interested bidders up to 5 PM on 03/09/25 other particulars of bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state.
UBN. No. MCJ2526GLRC00043
Medical Superintendent cum, Member Secretary, RMRS, Sawai Man Singh Hospital, Jaipur
DIPR/C/10420/2025

IndiGo Q1 net slips 20% on AI crash, geopolitical tensions

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

Total income for quarter-ended June 2025 was ₹21,542 crore , an increase of 6.4%. PTI

IndiGo recorded a profit of ₹2,176.3 crore for the first quarter of the financial year 2026, marking a 20% decline compared with same period last year.

The drop came during a traditionally-weak quarter that was further impacted by several headwinds, including a "caution in travel sentiment" following the Air India AI171 crash.

Other factors were cancellations on account of border tensions with Pakistan as well as re-routings for West-bound flights due to the closure of Pakistan airspace. Total income for the quarter was ₹21,542 crore , an increase of 6.4%.

Despite the challenges, passenger numbers grew by 12% to over 10 lakh.

Hyundai Motor India Q1 net profit slides 8% to ₹1,369 crore

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

HMIL's revenue during the quarter slipped 5.36% to ₹16,413 crore. REUTERS

Hyundai Motor India Ltd. (HMIL) reported an 8% year-on-year slide in consolidated net profit to ₹1,369 crore while revenue during the quarter slipped 5.36% to ₹16,413 crore.

HMIL saw accelerated export growth. Volume surged 13% while domestic growth was subdued amid macro challenges, the company said in a filing.

Unsoo Kim, MD, HMIL said, "We continued our strategy of 'Quality of Growth' in Q1FY26 with balance between domestic and exports, market share and profitability.

"This helped sustain strong EBITDA margin of 13.3% during the quarter, despite tough macro-economic environment."

ROME

Italy summons Russian envoy after President put on 'Russophobe' list

AFP

Italy on Wednesday summoned Russia's Ambassador after Moscow included Italian President Sergio Mattarella (in picture) on a list of Western officials critical of the Kremlin. Mr. Mattarella was included on the Foreign Ministry's 'Russophobe' list of officials whom it accuses of using "the language of hatred" against Russia. AFP

LAHORE

70-year-old Ahmadi community worship place demolished in Pak.

AFP

A 70-year-old worship place of the minority Ahmadi community was demolished by the police in Pakistan's Punjab, an organisation representing the community said. The incident took place at Butala Sharm Singh village in Gujranwala district, some 80 km from Lahore, on Tuesday, the Jamaat-e-Ahmadiyya Pakistan said. PTI

DHAKA

BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia to contest Bangladesh general polls

AP

Khaleda Zia (in picture), chairperson of the Bangladesh Nationalist Partyand former Premier, will contest the upcoming general election, a leader of her party said on Wednesday. BNP vice-chairman Abdul Awal Mintoo said the 79-year-old party chief was doing well and will contest the election from Feni. PTI

ISLAMABAD

Taliban slam neighbouring nations for the mass expulsion of Afghans

AFP

The Taliban on Wednesday criticised neighbouring countries for the mass expulsion of Afghans, as Iran and Pakistan expel foreigners who they say are living there illegally. The two nations set deadlines and threatened them with arrest or deportation if they did not comply. Afghans make up significant numbers in both countries. AFP

Thailand and Cambodia reaffirm truce commitment

Associated Press
BANGKOK

Thailand and Cambodia reaffirmed their shaky ceasefire on Wednesday after China helped mediate a peace process to end days of border fighting.

The ceasefire reached in Malaysia was supposed to take effect at midnight on Monday, but was quickly tested.

Early on Wednesday, both sides had appeared to reaffirm their commitment to a ceasefire, with representatives appearing smiling in a photo with a Chinese Vice-Minister Sun Weidong at a meeting in Shanghai.

In a statement, China said it was playing a "constructive role in resolving their border dispute".

Israeli strikes kill 46 in Gaza amid deepening hunger crisis

30 were killed while seeking aid; seven, including a child, die from malnutrition-related causes; under pressure, the Israeli government has agreed to let more international aid into the enclave

Associated Press
DEIR AL-BALAH

Israeli strikes and gunfire in the Gaza Strip killed at least 46 Palestinians overnight and into Wednesday, most of them among crowds seeking food, health officials said.

Israel has continued to carry out daily strikes as its military offensive and blockade have led to the "worst-case scenario of famine" in the territory of some 2 million Palestinians, according to an international authority on hunger crises. Ceasefire talks appeared to have stalled again last week, with no end in sight to the nearly 22-month war sparked by Hamas' October 7 attack.

Daily struggles: A boy, injured while seeking humanitarian aid, is carried to a field hospital in southern Gaza on Wednesday. AFP

More than 30 people were killed while seeking humanitarian aid, according to hospitals that received the bodies and treated dozens of wounded people. Another seven Palestinians, including a child, died of malnutrition-related causes.

Under heavy international pressure, Israel announced a series of measures over the weekend to facilitate the entry of more international aid to Gaza, but aid workers say much more is needed.

More than 1,000 Palestinians have been killed while seeking aid since May, most near sites run by GHF.

International airdrops of aid have also resumed, but many of the parcels have landed in areas that Palestinians have been told to evacuate while others have plunged into the Mediterranean Sea, forcing people to swim out to retrieve drenched bags of flour.

Focus on practical steps for Israel-Palestine two-state solution, says India at UN

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Palestinians gather to collect humanitarian aid that is airdropped into Zawaida in central Gaza Strip on Wednesday. AP

India joined the call for Israel to end the war in Gaza and ensure access to food, Hamas to return hostages, and for UN members to recognise the statehood of Palestine at a UN conference co-chaired by France and Saudi Arabia, but stayed on the sidelines of the major working groups formed.

In a speech late on Tuesday, Indian Ambassador Parvathaneni Harish said that in 1988, India was one of the first countries to recognise the Palestinian state, and it is now time to focus on steps required for practical solutions not "paper solutions" to help the situation.

"Our efforts must now focus on how to bring about a two-state solution through purposeful dialogue and diplomacy, and bringing the parties to the conflict to engage directly with each other," Mr. Harish said while speaking at the conference that began on Monday with France announcing it plans to recognise Palestine by September 21, making it the first G-7 country to do so.

U.K. Foreign Secretary David Lammy also addressed the conference, saying the U.K. would recognise Palestine at the UN General Assembly session in September, unless the Netanyahu government acts to "end the appalling situation in Gaza, ends its military campaign and commits to a long-term sustainable peace based on a two-State solution".

Of the 193 UN members, 147 have recognised Palestine statehood thus far, with many more called on to do so in a 25-page outcome document titled 'New York Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution' at the end of the conference, before the UNGA starts on September 21.

While India was an early backer of the Palestinian cause, its record on votes and debates at the UN after the October 7, 2023 attacks by Hamas has been more reticent, and Indian diplomats have abstained on more UN votes on the Israel-Palestine conflict than in the past, including most recently on a ceasefire resolution in June.

'Human suffering'

"The human suffering in Gaza continues unabated," Mr. Harish said in the address, referring to "tens of thousands" killed, but not naming Israel and the Israeli Defence Forces who are accused of bombarding, blockading and starving hundreds of thousands inside Gaza.

"Let us also not forget the plight of the hostages and their families. There can be no justification whatsoever for terrorism, for addressing any root cause or political grievance," he added, but did not name Hamas who carried out the October 7 attacks and took 251 hostages, of which many have been released or died, and about 50 believed to still be in captivity.

The Modi government's decision to participate in the UN conference, but not send in a Minister as had been requested by the Co-Chairs France and Saudi Arabia – both close partners of India – is seen as a way of balancing its interests with the U.S. and Israel, both of whom boycotted it.

In addition, eight working groups have been set up, on building narratives, promoting international law, security, economic viability, humanitarian actions and other mechanisms for a two-state solution, but India has chosen not to lead even one of them.

Instead, countries such as Canada, Ireland, Turkiye, Brazil, Indonesia, Egypt, Jordan, Spain, Mexico, Qatar, the UAE, Italy, the European Union and others have opted to co-chair the committees. When asked, official sources confirmed that India would not be co-chairing any of the working groups, but that it would be "part of the discussions".

Three killed as Russia strikes Army training ground in Ukraine

Associated Press
KYIV

Russia continues its aerial campaign against Ukraine targets, launching 78 drones overnight

A Russian missile hit a Ukrainian Army training ground, killing three soldiers and wounding 18 others, authorities said, in the latest attack to embarrass military officials as they struggle to make up a severe manpower shortage in the nearly three-and-half-year war.

The Russian Defence Ministry said that the strike killed or wounded about 200 Ukrainian troops. The Ministry said that Ukraine's 169th training centre near Honcharivske in the Chernihiv region was hit with two Iskander missiles, one armed with multiple submunitions and another with high explosives.

Meanwhile, Russia continued its stepped-up aerial campaign against Ukrainian targets, launching 78 attack drones overnight, including up to eight newly developed jet-powered drones, Ukraine's air force said on Wednesday. At least five persons were wounded.

Russia earthquake triggers tsunami waves in Japan, U.S.

Associated Press
TOKYO

One of the strongest earthquakes ever recorded struck off Russia's sparsely populated Far East early on Wednesday, sending tsunami waves into Japan, Hawaii and the U.S. West Coast. Several people were injured, but none gravely, and no major damage has been reported so far.

A tsunami height of 3 to 4 m was recorded in Kamchatka, 60 cm on Japan's northern island of Hokkaido, while tsunami waves about 60 cm to 150 cm high reached San Francisco early on Wednesday.

Authorities warned the risk from the 8.8 magnitude quake could last for hours, and millions of people potentially in the path of the waves were initially told to move away from the shore or seek high ground.

Ripple effect: The Severo-Kurilsk region, part of Russia's northern Kuril islands, after it was struck by tsunami on Wednesday. AFP

But the danger already appeared to be lessening in some places, with authorities downgrading their warnings in Hawaii, Japan and parts of Russia.

Russian authorities said several people were injured, but said all were in stable condition, though they gave few details. In Japan, at least one person was injured.

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग, अजमेर
क्रमांकः- अमुअ/अज./ तक./ एफ-2 (30ए) निविदा/ डी-1390 दिनांकः- 17.07.2025
NIB No. :-PWD2526A2063

राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से सीआरआईएफ योजनान्तर्गत वर्ष 2025-26 के तहत एक सड़क कार्य के लिए उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं केन्द्रीय/ राज्य सरकार व उनके अधिकृत संगठनों/ केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग/ रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के एए श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में **कुल 02 कार्यों जिसकी लागत राशि रू. 6623.62 लाख है,** के लिए ई-टेण्डरिंग प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑनलाईन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती है।

निविदा फार्म डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड करने की तारीख एवं समय	शुक्रवार 18 जुलाई, 2025 प्रातः 9.30 बजे से सोमवार 11 अगस्त, 2025 सायं 6.00 बजे तक।

निविदा से सम्बन्धित समस्त विवरण वेबसाईट www.dipronline.org पर एवं निविदा दस्तावेज का विवरण वेबसाईट http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in एवं sppp.raj.nic.in पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर ऑनलाईन सम्पादित की जायेगी।

UBN No. :-PWD2526WLOB07445 and PWD2526WLOB07446.

अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सा.नि.वि., संभाग, अजमेर

DIPR/C/10335/25

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

West Bengal Housing Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Undertaking)
HIDCO BHABAN, Premises No. 35-1111, Biswa Bangla Sarani, 3rd Rotary, New Town, Kolkata-700156
Memo No. C–224/1/HIDCO/Admn-4243/2025 Date 28.07.2025
Abridged Notice for e-Auction

E-AUCTION FOR ALLOTMENT OF 2.04 ACRES (8268.22 Sq. Mtr) OF LAND WITH BUILDING IN PLOT NO. DF / 183, 184, 185 IN ACTION AREA ID OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA ON FREEHOLD BASIS FOR "INSTITUTIONAL / EDUCATIONAL" PURPOSE.
[e-Auction ID:2025_WB_4910] dtd. 28.07.2025

PLOT NO.	PLOT SIZE	E-AUCTION DATE	LAST DATE OF APPLICATION
PLOT NO. DF/183, 184,185 IN ACTION AREA ID OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA	2.04 Acres	04.09.2025	29.08.2025 up to 14:00 hrs.

For details, please visit https://eauction.gov.in or www.wbhidcoltd.com
Contact no :- 2324-6032/6037/6038

ICA- T16113(4)/2025

Government of Tamil Nadu
HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT
Projects Circle, Chennai-16

TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No. 03/2025-2026/SDO/Dated. 29.07.2025

For and on behalf of Governor of Tamil Nadu **Two Item Rate tenders** through online only will be received upto **04.09.2025, 14.00** hours by the **Superintending Engineer (H) Projects Circle, Chennai** for **One Road Over Bridge work** in respect of **Chennai (H) Projects Division** under the **Railway Works Programme 2018-19** and **One High Level Bridge work** in respect of **Vellore (H) Projects Division** under the **CRIDP 2025-26.**

Details of Name of works, approximate value of works, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details are available from **04.08.2025,** onwards in the Government website **https://tntenders.gov.in.** If any Changes / Corrections / Amendments etc. to the tender, it will be published on the above Government website only.

Superintending Engineer (H), Projects Circle, Chennai-16.

DIPR / 3982 / TENDER / 2025

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly Owned by Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
(CIN-U04010KA2002SGC030438)

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPP portal only)

The Chief Engineer Ele., Bangalore Rural Area Zone, BESCOM, Bengaluru invites tender for following sub-divisions of BRAZ jurisdiction for Providing Electrical infrastructure to the IP sets by extending 11kV lines, erection of 25 kVA star 1 (4 star rated) distribution transformers and extension of LT line **on partial turnkey basis (Major materials will be supplied by the BESCOM)** on item wise fixed rate contract on percentage quoting basis at KPP Portal in Two cover System for a period of **one year**

Sl. No.	Enquiry No.s & Date	Name of the Sub-Division	Approx Amount Put to Tender(Rs)	EMD Amount	Category
1	CEE/BRAZ/SEE(O)/AEE-1/Eng No. ET 38/2025-26/ dated.30.07.2025	Kanakapura Urban	₹99,96,304/-	₹99,963/-	CAT-II-(A)
2	CEE/BRAZ/SEE(O)/AEE-1/Eng No. ET 39/2025-26/ dated.30.07.2025	Harohalli	₹96,09,402/-	₹1,92,188/-	Other
3	CEE/BRAZ/SEE(O)/AEE-1/Eng No. ET 40/2025-26/ dated.30.07.2025	Channapatna Urban	₹35,95,695/-	₹35,957/-	ST

Time Schedule: (1) Bid document available on e-portal: **01.08.2025** after **11:00** Hrs, IST. (2) Pre-Bid meeting: **06.08.2025 @ 11:00** Hrs, IST (3) Last date for submission of bid document: **16.08.2025** upto **17:00** Hrs, IST (4) Date and Time of opening technical bid: **18.08.2025** @ 17:00 Hrs, IST

The details regarding participation in the tender can be obtained through KPP portal from the website kpppusers@karnataka.gov.in. on or after **01.08.2025** Aspiring bidders need to register on KPP portal. All the payments such as tender processing fee, EMD etc. shall be made through e-payment mode. Further any clarification contact help desk 09240214000 & 09240214001 Or e-mail: support@eprochelpdesk.com and 080-23500164 or 9449844798

Sd/-
Chief Engineer (Electy.), BRAZ, BESCOM

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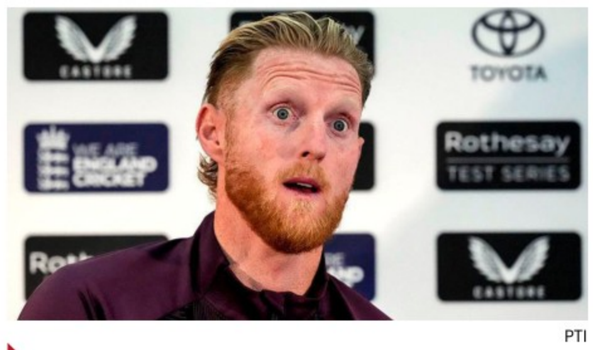
GAME RECOGNISES GAME

A big miss for England: Gill on counterpart Stokes' injury



PTI

India skipper Shubman Gill believes Ben Stokes' absence will be felt by England in the fifth Test. "A big miss for England. Whenever he comes on to bowl or bat, he always makes something happen. Having said that, the players who come in to play for the country are as competitive," said Gill.

FULL OF PRAISE

His batting boosted our lower middle-order: Gill on Washington

AFP

Washington Sundar is someone who gives us so much control with bowling. And his batting has been a big plus for us. We are fortunate to have players like him in our team. We needed some improvement in our lower middle-order. And with him coming in, I think we have improved in that area — Shubman Gill.

STILL ON TOP

Jadeja retains No. 1 position in the Test all-rounder charts

GETTY IMAGES

India all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja on Wednesday stretched his lead to consolidate as the World No. 1 all-rounder in Test cricket. "Jadeja has inflated his lead at the top of the rankings for all-rounders after grabbing four wickets and scoring a fighting 107 not out," the ICC said in statement on its website.

IN CONTROL

Henry scalps six as New Zealand shoots out Zimbabwe for 149

X@BLACKCAPS

Pacer Matt Henry grabbed six for 39 as Zimbabwe was dismissed for 149 in its first innings on the opening day of the first Test against New Zealand in Bulawayo on Wednesday. NZ was 92 for no loss at close. **The scores:** Zimbabwe 149 in 60.3 overs (Henry 6/39) vs. New Zealand 92/0 in 26 overs (Young 41 batting, Conway 51 batting).

Can India make it all square at The Oval?

The visitors will fancy their chances against a depleted England, sans its inspirational leader Stokes; skipper Pope has his task cut out with Archer and Carse also missing out; captain Gill says India will look at the conditions and weather forecast before deciding on Bumrah's inclusion in the XI

INDIA IN ENGLAND

Shayan Acharya
LONDON

As Shubman Gill inspected the pitch on Wednesday afternoon at The Oval, chief curator Lee Fortis stood nearby and was engaged in a chat with Akash Deep and Abhimanyu Easwaran.

A few moments later, as the Indian think-tank – comprising Gill, head coach Gautam Gambhir, batting coach Sitanshu Kotak and chief selector Ajit Agarkar – stood near the square, Fortis walked up to them. Following his heated exchange with Gambhir, one would have expected further fireworks.

All quiet

As the cameras panned towards them, none of them spoke.

While it seemed fine from a distance, the Indian camp wasn't quite happy with the way things panned out, and when the final Test of the Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy begins on Thursday, it would be all gung-ho about ending the series on a high.

With England missing out on captain Ben Stokes, Liam Dawson, Jofra Archer and Brydon Carse, India certainly has the edge.

Bring it on! Team India will be buzzing with energy after the defiant draw at Old Trafford. GETTY IMAGES

While the medical team has advised against playing Jasprit Bumrah, captain Gill admitted that on a surface that could be 'lively', the team will take a call on fielding the ace pacer later, considering the conditions and weather forecast.

There are high chances of Bumrah eventually missing out, and the onus will fall on Mohammed Siraj and Akash Deep. The latter is expected to return to the side after missing out on the previous Test.

Having claimed 17 wickets between them in India's memorable win at Edgbaston, the expectations will be high from the pace duo. With the surface having a tinge of green on match eve, Arshdeep Singh could potentially make his red-ball debut as the third seamer. "Arshdeep has been asked to get ready," Gill confirmed, without divulging details.

Since the beginning of 2023, seamers have claimed 617 wickets in the 22 First Class games played at the venue, whereas spinners have grabbed 79.

This statistic could weaken left-arm wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav's chances of returning to the side.

India is expected to continue with B. Sai Sudharsan at No. 3, despite his duck in the second innings at Old Trafford. Dhruv Jurel will be brought in as the wicketkeeper-batter in place of Rishabh Pant, who has been ruled out due to a fractured foot.

While India's batting looks steady, with captain Gill and K.L. Rahul among runs, consistent performances by Ravindra Jadeja and Washington Sundar have added depth. Coming on the back of centuries, both would hope to keep the momentum going.

On the other hand, the absence of Stokes is a huge blow for England. He was not only the team's impactful bowler in the series, but also led from the front in the trickiest of situations.

Batting all-rounder Jacob Bethell, who has been drafted for his first Test of the season, is expected to take care of the spin-bowling duties along with Joe Root. The host will also feel the absence of Carse and Archer in the fast-bowling department.

It would be a challenge for stand-in skipper Ollie Pope to bring the best out of Jamie Overton, Gus Atkinson and Josh Tongue.

Against a depleted England, this is India's biggest opportunity.

The teams: England (XI): Ollie Pope (Capt.), Jamie Smith (wk), Zak Crawley, Ben Duckett, Joe Root, Harry Brook, Jacob Bethell, Chris Woakes, Gus Atkinson, Jamie Overton, Josh Tongue.
India (from): Shubman Gill (Capt.), Dhruv Jurel (wk), N. Jagadeesan (wk), Yashasvi Jaiswal, K.L. Rahul, B. Sai Sudharsan, Abhimanyu Easwaran, Karun Nair, Washington Sundar, Shardul Thakur, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj, Prasidh Krishna, Akash Deep, Arshdeep Singh, Anshul Kamboj and Kuldeep Yadav.
Match starts at 3:30 p.m. IST.

Strong opinion: Gill feels that the captain and coach have every right to have a close look at the pitch. GETTY IMAGES

Gill stumped by the curator's no-go order

Shayan Acharya
LONDON

There have been several intense moments between India and England in the ongoing Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy.

However, India captain Shubman Gill made it clear that there was no animosity between the players off the field.

While Gill got into an argument with Ben Duckett and Zak Crawley at Lord's, Ben Stokes extended a handshake to Ravindra Jadeja and Washington Sundar to end the Old Trafford game in a draw when they were inching closer to their centuries. Things spiced up further on Tuesday as India head coach Gautam Gambhir had a heated exchange with The Oval chief curator Lee Fortis.

While Gill supported Gambhir, he downplayed the other incidents. Gill's comments came in the wake of Stokes' statement that England had moved on from the handshake episode. "These are three very separate moments, not correlated at all. I've already explained what happened at Lord's and even regarding the last match. What happened yesterday [Tuesday] was absolutely unnecessary.

"It's not the first time that we have had a look at the wicket. A coach has every right to be able to go close quarters and see the square. And I didn't think that there was anything wrong with that."

"I actually don't know why the curator would not allow us to examine the surface. A pitch curator asking to look at the wicket from three metres behind has not happened to us before.

"We have been playing cricket for such a long time. As long as you are wearing rubber spikes or you are barefoot, you are allowed to look at the wicket from close quarters. And that is the job of the coach and the captain," Gill added.

No respite: Senior pros like Root and Stokes have been overburdened by the packed calendar. PTI

Stokes and Gill call for scheduling consistency

Shayan Acharya
LONDON

Ben Stokes, who was ruled out of the final Test against India due to a right shoulder injury, called for better scheduling and gaps in a five-Test series.

Both teams have struggled in terms of managing player injuries and workloads, and the England captain did not hesitate in admitting that it takes a 'big toll' on every player.

"I guess maybe you could look back over five games in a series.

"Could the gaps between games be done a little bit better? You had two eight-day and nine-day gaps between Tests and then two three-day turnarounds; maybe you could look at making it four, five for every game. This way there's some consistency," Stokes said.

"It has been tough for both teams. A lot of overs were bowled, and there was a lot of time spent out on the field. That's part of the game," he added.

India captain Shubman Gill also agreed that playing over five days has its challenges.

"One of the most important things in the series has been that all the matches have gone up to five days. I can't remember a series where all four Test matches were played until the last moment," Gill said.

"Three days is too little of a turnaround when both teams are playing such hard cricket".

WCL semifinal: India refuses to play against Pakistan

Press Trust of India
BIRMINGHAM

India has refused to play against Pakistan in the semifinals of the World Championship of Legends here on Thursday, citing the nation's stand against any bilateral sporting ties with the neighbour after the gruesome Pahalgam terror attack.

The Indian team, which includes players like Shikhar Dhawan, Irfan Pathan, Harbhajan Singh, Yuvraj Singh and Suresh Raina, among others, has already expressed its unwillingness to play against Pakistan.

India took a similar stand like it did in the group-stage match against Pakistan earlier in the tournament.

EasyMyTrip, a top sponsor of the league, has already made its position clear on the India-Pakistan match.

"The upcoming semifinal against Pakistan is not just another game, Terror and cricket cannot go hand in hand," the travel-tech company's co-founder Nishant Pitti posted on X.

The Queen is here!

India's pride: Divya Deshmukh, the FIDE World Cup champion, along with her parents after a rousing welcome on arrival at Nagpur on Wednesday. PTI

SNAPSHOTS

Taylor's ban period over, added to squad for second Test

BULAWAYO: Zimbabwe batter Brendan Taylor has been added to his country's Test squad after serving a three-and-a-half year ban, Zimbabwe Cricket announced on Wednesday. He will be available for the second Test, starting here on August 7.
"I certainly did think it was all done, but here I am – and it's an overwhelming feeling of gratitude," said Taylor. "The last year and a half has certainly been dedicated to my return." Taylor was found guilty in January 2022 of four charges under the International Cricket Council's (ICC) anti-corruption code and separately for failing a drugs test.

Mhatre to lead India u-19 on tour of Australia

CHENNAI: Ayush Mhatre will lead India under-19 on the tour of Australia where it will play three one-day games and two multi-day matches against the hosts.

The squad: Ayush Mhatre (Capt.), Vihaan Malhotra (Vice-capt.), Vaibhav Suryavanshi, Vedant Trivedi, Rahul Kumar, Abhigyan Kundu (wk), Harvansh Singh (wk), R.S. Ambrish, Kanishk Chouhan, Naman Pushpak, Henil Patel, D Deepesh, Kishan Kumar, Anmoljeet Singh, Khilan Patel, Udhav Mohan, Aman Chauhan.
Standbyes: Yudhajit Guha, Laxman, B.K. Kishore, Alankrith Rapole, and Arnav Bugga.

The schedule:

One-dayers: Sept. 21, 24 and 26, Norths; **Multi-day:** Sept. 30 to Oct. 3, Norths; Oct. 7 to 10, Mackay.

Wrestler Hardeep wins World under-17 gold

Y.B. Sarangi
KOLKATA

Hailing from 2017 Miss World Manushi Chhillar's village Bamnoli in Jhajjar district of Haryana, teenager Hardeep was super proud after winning gold in the Greco Roman 110kg event in the World under-17 wrestling championships in Athens and putting his village on the global map once again.

The 16-year-old won the heaviest weight class Greco Roman gold medal for India at the under-17 level. Vinod Kumar (45kg, 1980), Pappu Yadav (51kg, 1992) and Suraj (55kg, 2022) were previous champions.

"I am very happy to have achieved this," a shy Hardeep told *The Hindu*.

Hardeep, a reigning Asian under-17 champion, defeated Kazakhstan's Baktur Sovetkhan 2-0, Poland's Mateusz Tomelka 4-2, Ukraine's Anatolii Novachenko 9-0 and Turkey's Emrullah Capkan 4-2 to reach the final. He beat Iranian Yazdan Reza Delrouz 3-3 via criteria in the final to secure the lone Greco Roman medal for India.

"Even though he trains in freestyle and Greco Roman, Hardeep's heavy upper body helps him in Greco Roman. One who never gives up, he fought some tough bouts. The final one was the toughest. He has a bright future," said national team coach Ajay Singh.

Hardeep. X/@WFI_WRESTLING

Hardeep, who lost his parents at an early age, kept up his family tradition to take to wrestling and honed his skills under coach Dharmender Dalal at the Hind Kesari Sonu Akhada in Bahadurgarh. "Without any sponsorship, we try our best to support him so that he can make the country proud," said Hardeep's uncle Jasveer.

Meanwhile, Rachana (43kg), Moni (57kg), Ashvini Vishnoi (65kg) and Kajal (73kg) entered their respective finals to remain in gold medal contention. The finals will be held on Thursday.

INBRIEF

Leon Marchand smashes 200m medley world record

France's Leon Marchand smashed the 200m individual medley World record in Singapore on Wednesday, clocking 1min 52.69sec. The previous record, set by American Ryan Lochte in 2011, stood at 1:54.00.

Indian men assured of bronze in World junior squash

India, seeded fifth, edged out third seed South Korea 2-1 to reach the men's team semifinals at the World junior squash in Cairo on Wednesday, thereby assuring itself of a bronze medal.

The result: India bt Korea 2-1 (Yusha Nafees bt Jeong Uk Ryu 11-5, 11-5, 11-9; Pr Sandesh lost to Joo Young Na 4-11, 4-11, 4-11; Arihant KS bt Jonghyeok Lee 11-7, 11-13, 11-3, 11-4).

Indian team loses to Argentina, suffers third defeat

Argentina defeated India 4-2 in the fourth league match of the IC Rod Laver junior challenge tennis in Barcelona. It was the third defeat for India.

The results: League: Argentina bt India 4-2 (Tomas Re bt Samarth Sahita 3-6, 7-5, [10-7]; Felipe Gonzalez bt Araadhya Kshitij 7-5, 4-6, [10-7]; Sofia Meabe bt Saanvi Misra 6-2, 6-1; Camila Markus lost to Rishitha Basireddy 1-6, 6-4, [1-10]; Tomas & Felipe lost to Samarth & Araadhya 4-6, 7-6(4) retired; Sofia & Camila bt Saanvi & Rishitha 6-1, 6-2).

Sunderland ropes in Xhaka from Leverkusen

Sunderland on Wednesday announced the signing of Swiss midfielder Granit Xhaka from Bayer Leverkusen for a reported fee of £17.3 million.

Lakshya, Ayush, Tharun in Macau Open second round

Fifth seeds Kapila and Tanisha, ranked 18th in the world, outclass Thailand's Makkasasithorn and Laisuan in mixed doubles; Prannoy goes down to Marcellyno

BADMINTON

Press Trust of India
MACAU

Lakshya Sen, Ayush Shetty and Tharun Mannepalli progressed to the Macau Open Super 300 badminton men's singles second round here on Wednesday.

Lakshya brushed aside Korea's Jeon Hyeok Jin 21-8 21-14, while world No. 31 Ayush eased past Chinese Taipei's Huang Yu Kai 21-10 21-11. Tharun defeated fellow Indian Manraj Singh 21-19 21-13.

In mixed doubles, fifth seeds Dhruv Kapila and Tanisha Crasto, ranked 18th in the world, outclassed Thailand's Ratchapol Makkasasithorn and Nattamon Laisuan 21-10, 21-15. In an all-Indian men's doubles clash, P. Krishnamurthy Roy and S. Pratheek K. prevailed 21-18, 21-19 over D. Konthoujam and Amaan Mohammad to enter the second round.

Easing ahead: Seventh seed Ayush made short work of the 66th-ranked Huang. FILE PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

However, India's H.S. Prannoy made an early exit after losing 21-18, 15-21, 15-21 to Indonesia's Yohanes Saut Marcellyno in the men's singles opening round.

It was also the end of the road for Sathish Kumar Karunakaran, who went down to Malaysia's Justin Hoh 19-21, 12-21.

The results (first round): Men: Ayush Shetty bt Huang Yu Kai 21-10, 21-11; Justin Hoh bt Sathish Kumar Karunakaran 19-21, 12-21; Lakshya Sen bt Jeon Hyeok Jin 21-8, 21-14, Tharun Mannepalli bt Manraj Singh 21-19 21-13; Yohanes Saut Marcellyno bt H.S. Prannoy 18-21, 21-15, 21-15; Hu Zhe An bt Sankar Subramanian 21-18, 21-14; Ng Ka Long Angus bt Kiran George 21-15, 21-10. **Doubles:** P. Krishnamurthy Roy & S. Pratheek K. bt D. Konthoujam & Amaan Mohammad 21-18, 21-19. **Women:** Nozomi Okuhara bt Aakarshi Kashyap 21-14, 21-16; Julie Dawall Jakobsen bt Unnati Hooda 16-21, 21-19, 21-17; Riko Gunji bt Anupama Upadhyaya 21-16, 21-10; Busanan Ongbamrungphan bt Anmol Kharb 23-21, 21-11; Chen Yu Fei bt Tasnim Mir 21-6, 21-14. **Mixed doubles:** Dhruv Kapila & Tanisha Crasto bt Ratchapol Makkasasithorn & Nattamon Laisuan 21-10, 21-15; Wu Guan Xun & Lee Chia Hsin bt Rohan Kapoor & Ruthvika Shivani Gadde 22-20, 21-17. Phuwanat Horbanluekit & Fungfa Korpthammakit bt Thandrangini Hema Nagendra Babu & Priya Konjengbam 21-11, 21-14; Rehan Naufal Kusharjanto & Gloria Emanuelle Widjaja bt Ayush Agarwal & Shruti Mishra 21-10, 21-11.

Karan ousts third seed Gakhov, makes quarters

Sports Bureau

Karan Singh knocked out third seed Ivan Gakhov 6-3, 7-6(7) in the pre-quarterfinals of the $60,000 Challenger tennis on Wednesday. In the quarterfinals, Karan will play Alexandr Binda of Italy.

In the $100,000 Challenger in Lexington (USA), qualifier Dhakshineswar Suresh beat fifth seed Billy Harris of Great Britain 6-3, 7-5 in the first round.

The results: €145,250 Challenger, Porto: Doubles: Pre-quarterfinals: Nicolas Barrientos (Col) & Joran Vliegen (Bel) bt Sriram Balaji & Vijay Sundar Prashanth 7-6(3), 6-3.

€91,250 Challenger, Hagen: First round: Sumit Nagal bt Carlos Jover (Esp) 6-2, 6-2.

$100,000 Challenger, Lexington: First round: Dhakshineswar Suresh bt Billy Harris (GBR) 6-3, 7-5.

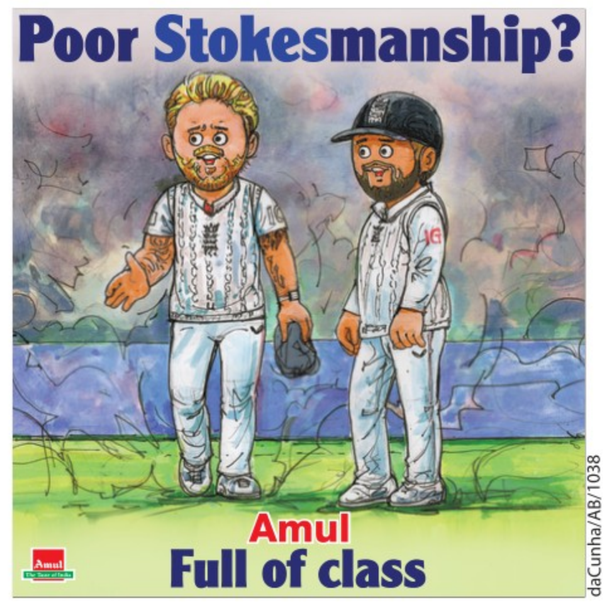
€91,250 Challenger, Liberec (Czech Republic): Doubles: Pre-quarterfinals: Szymon Kielan & Filip Pieczonka (Pol) bt Prajwal Dev & Nitin Kumar Sinha 6-4, 6-3.

$60,000 Challenger: Astana: Pre-quarterfinals: Karan Singh bt Ivan Gakhov 6-3, 7-6(7); Alexandre Bakshi (Geo) bt S. Mukund 7-6(4), 3-6, 6-4. **Doubles: Pre-quarterfinals:** Yusuke Kusuhara & Shunsuke Nakagawa (Jpn) bt Moerani Bouzige (Aus) & Sai Karteek Reddy 6-2, 6-4.

$30,000 ITF men, Brazzaville (Congo): First round: Aditya Balsekar bt Julian Desousa (Ned) 4-6, 6-3, 7-5; Nicolas Jadoun (Fra) bt Prakaash Sarran 6-1, 6-2.

$15,000 ITF men, Monastir: First round: Manas Dhamne bt Gokberk Saritas (Tur) 6-1, 6-4; **Doubles: Pre-quarterfinals:** Valentin Carvalho (Fra) & Samir Reguig (Alg) bt Taha Kald (Irq) & Aaron Samson 6-4, 6-2.

$15,000 ITF men, Nakhon Pathom (Thailand): First round: Pawit Sornlaksup (Tha) bt Daksh Prasad 6-2, 6-2; Yuhei Kono (Jpn) bt Dheeraj Srinivasan 7-6(4), 6-1.



daCunha/AB/1038

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Deeksha's century highlights Cambridge CC's win

C.D. Deeksha (106) powered Cambridge CC defeat Visweswarapuram CC (1) in the KSCA women's league here.

The scores: Visweswarapuram CC (2) 140/4 in 28 overs (Jayashree Rajshekar 78 n.o., Pranjal 37) lost to Herons CC 141/2 in 17.4 overs (Nishikha Charvi 28, Annapurna Bhosale 50, Rakshitha Nayaka 34 n.o.) *Overs reduced due to wet outfield.*

Modern CC 145/3 in 30 overs (Tanvi Raj S 44, Aruna Rajashekar 28, Gauri Methi 32 n.o.) bt Minerva CC 141 in 29.2 overs.

Cambridge CC 258/3 in 23 overs (Anya Santhosh 76, C.D. Deeksha 106) bt Visweswarapuram CC (1) 26 in 11.2 overs (Karishma Gowda 5/4).

Whirlwind Cricketers 49/5 in 12 overs lost to Dooravani Cricketers 53/1 in 8.3 overs (overs reduced due to wet outfield).

Mane pots 6-red snooker crown

Praveen Mane defeated defending champion I.H. Manudev in the final of the state-ranking 6-red snooker tournament at the KSBA hall here. Playing in a major final for the first time, the 25-year-old Mane scores a comfortable 6-4 win over the formidable three-time champion Manudev.

Mane.

The results: Final: Praveen Mane bt I.H. Manudev 76-0, 49-22, 33-8, 8-40, 22-31, 16-36, 43-35, 37-29, 7-43, 53-5.

LIVE TELECAST

Zimbabwe vs NZ: 1st Test, day 2, FanCode, 1.30 p.m.

England vs India: 5th Test, day 1, Sony Sports Ten 1 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 3.30 p.m.

Football: Durand Cup, Sony Sports Ten 2 & LIV, 4 & 7 p.m.

WI vs Pakistan: 1st T20I, FanCode, 5.30 a.m. (Friday).

Late goals help Namdhari beat South United

DURAND CUP

Amitabha Das Sharma
KOLKATA

Namdhari FC produced two late second half goals to beat South United FC 2-0 and begin its campaign on a winning note in a Group-A match of the 134th Durand Cup football at the Kishore Bharati Stadium here on Wednesday.

South United played defensively well to hold Namdhari goalless till late in the action before Bhupinder and Cledson DaSilva of Brazil scored in quick succession for the I-League side.

South United, meanwhile, ended its engagements with a lone point (from one draw and two losses). Namdhari joined local giant East Bengal on top of the current group standings (three points each).

Happy face: DaSilva celebrates after scoring Namdhari's second. DEBASISH BHADURI

Earlier, the Imphal derby ended with honours even as NEROCA FC snatched a dramatic 1-1 draw against a 10-man TRAU FC in the Group-E opener at the Khuman Lampak Main Stadium.

Khunjamayum Raj Singh's 58th minute strike gave TRAU the lead, but Arunkumar Singh scored late in added time as NEROCA escaped with a point from the keenly contested match.

The results: At Kolkata: Group-A: Namdhari FC 2 (Bhupinder 79, Cledson DaSilva 85) bt South United FC 0.

Imphal: Group-E: TRAU FC 1 (Khunjamayum Raj Singh 58) drew with NEROCA FC 1 (Arunkumar Singh 90+6).

Diaz. AFP

Bayern signs Diaz from Liverpool

Agence France-Presse
LONDON

Bayern Munich on Wednesday completed the signing of forward Luis Diaz from Premier League champion Liverpool for a reported fee that could rise to €75 million.

Diaz, who won Premier League, FA and League Cups during his time at Anfield, has signed a contract with the Bundesliga champion until 2029. Diaz made 50 appearances and scored 17 goals in all competitions last season.

Miracle Star for the Bangalore Summer Million

BENGALURU: Miracle Star, who has been well prepared, is expected to score in the Bangalore Summer Million (1,600m), the feature event of the races to be held here on Thursday. False rails (width about 6m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

1 OWN OPINION PLATE (DIV. II), (1,400m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 1-00 p.m.: 1. Ceremonial (5) Antony 56, 2. Lots Of Luck (4) Sai Kiran 56, 3. Resplendence (1) Darshan 56, 4. Unforgettable Star (9) Suraj 56, 5. Zorawar (7) L.A. Rozario 56, 6. Goddess Of War (6) Trevor 54.5, 7. Laamika (8) G. Vivek 54.5, 8. Larissa (2) Shreyas S 54.5 and 9. Pledge (3) Akshay K 54.5.
1. GODDESS OF WAR, 2. UNFORGETTABLE STAR, 3. LAAMIKA

2 SHA TIN PLATE (1,400m), rated 00 to 25, 1-30: 1. Mega Success (7) Antony 62, 2. Chinky Pinky (2) Aleemuddin 61.5, 3. Rising Form (8) S. Sachin 61.5, 4. Satin Lass (10) Tousif 61, 5. Turkoman (3) Siddaraju P 61, 6. N R I Jetpower (5) Abhishek Mhatre 60, 7. Woman At War (1) D. Patel 60, 8. Ice Storm (6) Angad 58.5, 9. Absolute Katrina (9) J. Chinoy 58 and 10. Emeraldo (4) R. Pradeep 58.
1. N R I JETPOWER, 2. MEGA SUCCESS, 3. SATIN LASS

3 OWN OPINION PLATE (DIV. I), (1,400m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 2-00: 1. Darrington (4) Arvind K 56, 2. Konkrah (2) Sandesh 56, 3. Rudra (3) Arman Khan 56, 4. Skagen (1) G. Vivek 56, 5. Agrima (5) Shreyas S 54.5, 6. Cashable (7) Siddaraju P 54.5, 7. Husanara (8) Darshan 54.5 and 8. Xanthe (6) Trevor 54.5.
1. DARRINGTON, 2. XANTHE, 3. KONKRAH

4 BARALOY PLATE (DIV. II), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 2-30: 1. Amazing Stride (3) Trevor 60, 2. Knotty Affair (8) G. Vivek 59, 3. Noble Cause (9) Tousif 55, 4. Vibrant Queen (7) Antony 54.5, 5. Ransomware (4) Angad 54, 6. Adornment (1) Akshay K 53.5, 7. Carter (5) Jagadeesh 53, 8. Verrazzano (2) Neeraj 53 and 9. Dr. Colchester (6) Vinod Shinde 51.
1. AMAZING STRIDE, 2. VIBRANT QUEEN, 3. ADORNMENT

5 HOLDING COURT PLATE (1,600m), rated 20 to 45, 3-00: 1. Final Call (6) Ramswarup 61.5, 2. Glorious Strides (7) Suraj 60, 3. Winfield (4) Antony 59.5, 4. Star Honour (2) G. Praveen 59, 5. Bruce Almighty (8) Afsar 57.5, 6. Imperial Star (9) Siddaraju P 55.5, 7. Ksepiman (3) G. Vivek 55.5, 8. CR Seven (5) Angad 54 and 9. Supreme Success (1) Vinod Shinde 54.
1. KSEPIMAN, 2. FINAL CALL, 3. GLORIOUS STRIDES

6 B.T.C. WORKFORCE CUP (1,600m), rated 40 to 65, 3-30: 1. Armory (3) Ramswarup 61, 2. Inspire (8) Antony 58.5, 3. Forest Fragrance (5) Sandesh 57, 4. Gordon (6) A.A. Vikrant 57, 5. Disciple (9) Aleemuddin 54.5, 6. Lux Aeterna (4) Trevor 54.5, 7. Indian Jack (7) Koshi K 53, 8. Alamgir (1) Neeraj 52 and 9. Dubai Safari (2) G. Vivek 52.
1. GORDON, 2. INSPIRE, 3. ALAMGIR

7 BANGALORE SUMMER MILLION (1,600m), 3-y-o, (Terms), 4-00: 1. Ashwa Kali Bhani (1) Suraj 57, 2. Sicyon (5) Sandesh 55.5, 3. El Rey (2) Trevor 52.5, 4. Laguna Seca (3) G. Vivek 51 and 5. Miracle Star (4) Neeraj 51.
1. MIRACLE STAR, 2. SICYON

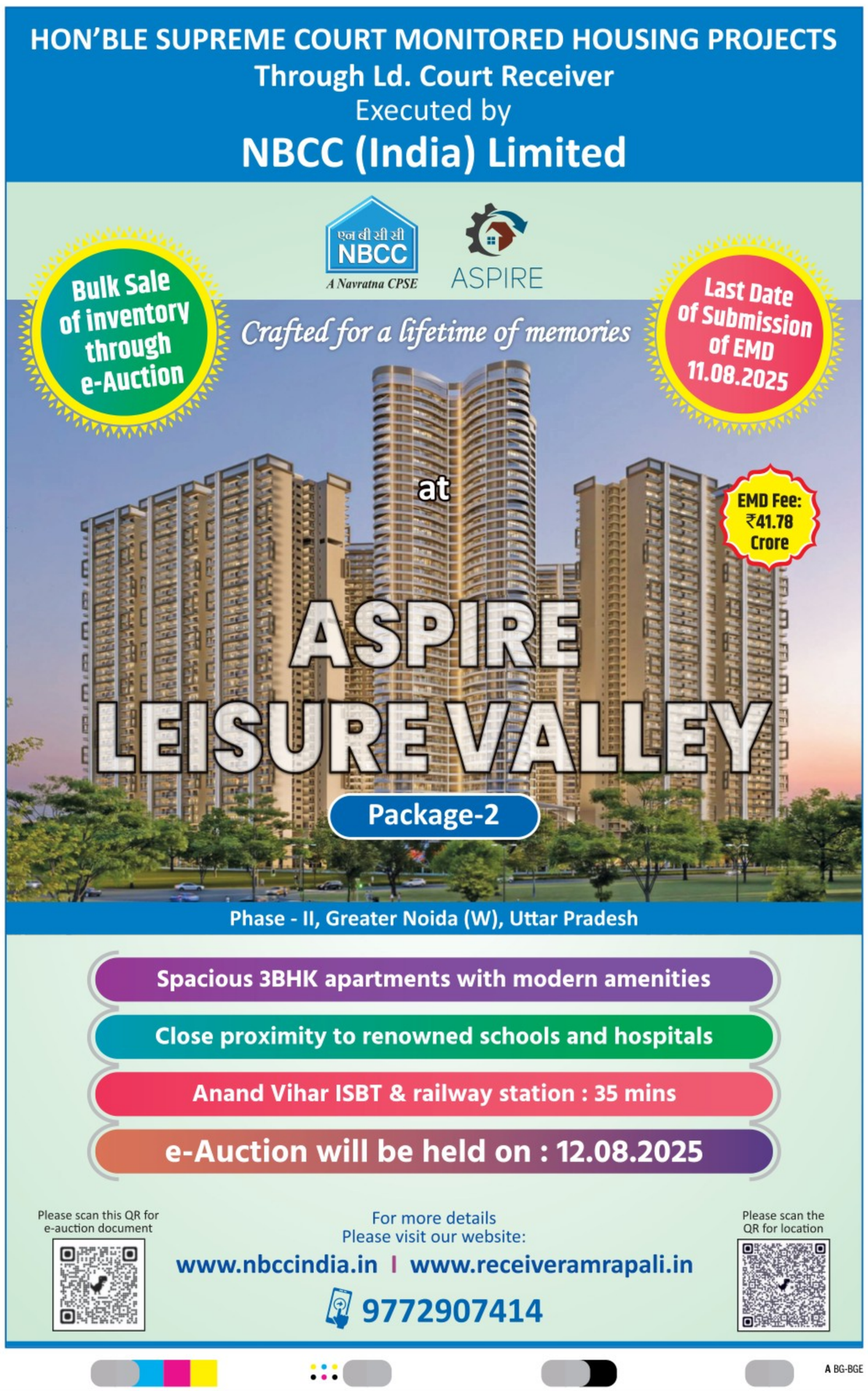
8 BARALOY PLATE (DIV. I), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 4-30: 1. Positivity (6) M. Prabhakaran 62, 2. Monterio (4) L.A. Rozario 60.5, 3. Flight Of Fancy (3) G. Vivek 60, 4. Iron King (1) Trevor 60, 5. Perfect Attitude (7) Antony 59.5, 6. Exceed (2) J. Chinoy 59, 7. Victoriaraya (5) Girish R 57.5 and 8. DR Ash (8) Salman Khan 56.
1. FLIGHT OF FANCY, 2. EXCEED, 3. PERFECT ATTITUDE

9 CONFUCIOUS PLATE (1,400m), rated 40 to 65, 5-y-o & over, 5-00: 1. Booster Shot (8) M. Prabhakaran 62.5, 2. Crosswater (4) Aleemuddin 62.5, 3. Vyasa (9) Antony 60, 4. Zuri (7) Trevor 60, 5. Dynamic Force (6) J. Chinoy 56, 6. Baashha (3) Shreyas S 55.5, 7. Stravinsky (2) Angad 55, 8. Super Marvella (5) C.A. Brisson 54.5 and 9. Disruptor (1) Siddaraju P 51.
1. ZURI, 2. CROSSWATER, 3. STRAVINSKY

Day's best: **MIRACLE STAR**

Double: **GODDESS OF WAR – AMAZING STRIDE**

Jkt: 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9; Tr (i): 1, 2 and 3; (ii): 4, 5 and 6; (iii): 7, 8 and 9.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